

*Maintain the truth lovingly
and always love truthfully.*

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Streaming CPO

Dear Friends,

As we enter into 2021, which marks the 23rd year of operation for CPO, we pray that God will bless this year with His Grace and Peace!

Because of the Covid-19 threats, we had to cancel our Lenten Retreat and our Luncheon/Fundraiser in 2020. We missed you. But the pandemic cannot stop the faithful! We were joined with many dedicated supporters, to honor our Blessed Mother in a Rosary procession in May. And in October, Father Altier blessed us with a much-needed holy Mass and an outstanding talk at St. Raphael's

continues to be one of the best resources available to help catechize and build up our Church at a time when it is most needed. The following is just one of the many edifying letters/emails we have received:

I watched the lectures on the Eucharist and His True Presence. I always believed that the Church taught that the bread and wine used during Holy Mass was only symbolic of Jesus. I could not believe what I was hearing. Once I came to know the Truth, I felt Him calling me to go to Eucharistic adoration. After 5+ years of being addicted to opioids, I stopped at that moment. I did not need any rehab or detox (which in and of itself is a miracle). I realized that the emptiness that I was anesthetizing with drugs was a deep yearning for unity with God. Your series on the fundamentals of Catholicism is literally saving lives.

Along with our vast collection of inspiring media, CPO is now offering a **streaming on-demand service** for our audio and video programs. This service allows anyone to watch CPO's excellent programs on their computer or phone. By offering this service, we are able to reach many more young people! Be sure to check our website for more information!

Unfortunately, we are not able to have our Lenten Retreat again this year. However, we will keep you posted when we are able to offer other events!

Thank you for your prayers and continued support!

God bless you and yours in the New Year,

Colleen Perfect

President, Catholic Parents OnLine



May 2020 CPO Rosary Procession

Catholic Church. There's good news for those who weren't able to attend the talk: you can watch a video of Father's talk at: catholicparents.org.

We are pleased to tell you that **Beauty, Truth, Goodness: The Fundamentals of Catholicism** by Father Altier is currently running on eight networks across the country! We have completed the Spanish version and, hopefully, will be offering it in Russian and other languages eventually. It

Stay Faithful to Jesus

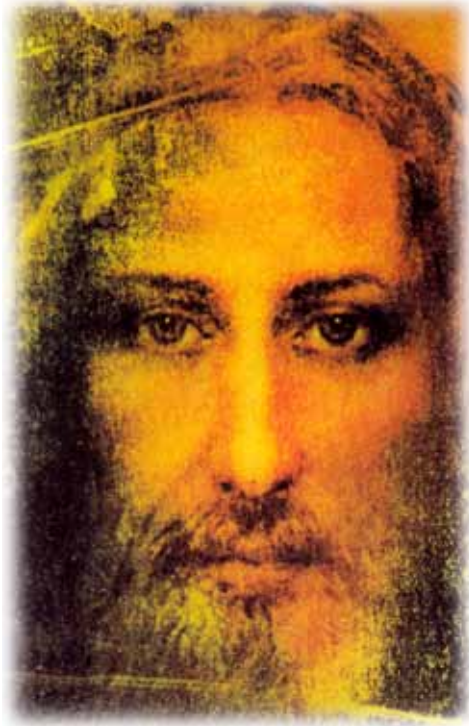
By Fr. Robert Altier, CPO Spiritual Director

Our nation and our world are on the verge of something great. However, as happened 2000 years ago, the resurrection of our Lord from the dead, the greatest event in the history of the world, was preceded by the most horrific event in the history of the world. St. Mark tells us that our Lord's first homily began with the statement that "it is a time of fulfillment." That fulfillment meant that all the promises God had made to the Jewish people and to the world were about to be realized in a way no one could have guessed.

In that time, God had allowed evil to grow and to prosper. Some people rejoiced in this and immersed themselves into all the world had to offer. Others saw the evil hidden behind the veneer of wealth and materialism and backed away from it. Many of the Jewish people walked away from their faith in God because it appeared that God was not strong enough to combat the powers that seemed so overwhelming. Beyond this, the "fulfillment" of self that the worldly powers offered was very attractive. Of course it was nothing but rank selfishness and using other people for one's own gain.

If this all sounds familiar, it is because we are essentially repeating the pattern that established itself leading up to the time of our Lord's Incarnation and His public ministry, which culminated in His death and resurrection. God has allowed evil to run rampant for the past 300 years or so. As always, the closer something gets to its natural end, the faster it goes. So, we have seen a massive acceleration in the past fifty years and even more in the past decade.

We are now at that point in our time that is similar to when our Lord told



the people of His time that it is a time of fulfillment. For months now I have been telling people in various homilies that we are coming to a point when every person on earth is going to have to make a decision. It is going to have to be a radical decision. We must recognize that there is a clash of the forces of Good and evil. This is not about good people and bad people; it is most certainly not about Republicans and Democrats or about liberals and conservatives. No, it is a choice between Jesus and Satan. The choice must be a 100% choice. There is no middle ground and any waffling is ultimately a choice for Satan.

On the one side is everything the world is pushing for. There is not room to even begin to touch upon the evil, but that it has been almost entirely hidden from the people. We have been brought to a point where an attempt is going to be made to

establish a one world government. This is being touted in a variety of ways, many of which most people have heard and some we have not. There is Agenda 21, Agenda 2030, Sustainable Development, The Great Reset, Build Back Better, Smart Cities, the Fourth Industrial Revolution, Transhumanism, and more.

The people who promote these ideas are experts at semantics. The title of something sounds really good. Who could be opposed to sustainable development, building back better, smart cities, or resetting the course of the world? What most of us think of when we hear these things is actually the opposite of what is meant by them. The first few are from the United Nations, the others come from different sources, but are united in a group that calls itself the World Economic Forum.

This forum was founded and is led by a man named Klaus Schwab. Schwab has made several failed attempts to push the one world agenda; he is using the pandemic as the means to push the agenda now. I would pay him little attention, but the "reset" has been spoken of by many world leaders, including Joe Biden and, most disturbingly, Pope Francis. "Build Back Better" has rolled off the lips of many in government around the world, including, once again, Joe Biden.

For us as Catholics, we must understand that a one world government requires a one world religion. The religion will unite people and provide the framework for being obedient citizens of our global state. You may think this all

sounds like a bunch of nonsense, at best, or a grand conspiracy theory at worst. This is why I listed the names earlier, so you can look it all up if you wish. Regarding the blueprints for the new world order and the global religion, these were all worked out a couple decades ago, so they are ready to be implemented when everything is in place. I apologize that there is not room to elaborate on these any further.

Regardless of what you want to call all these “initiatives,” it all comes down to communism. Our Lady told us at Fatima that Russia would spread her errors throughout the world. With the events that have taken place here in America following the election, the errors of Russia have now been spread throughout the entire world. We are now beginning to see our Lady stand up. I suspect you will see it more clearly in the coming weeks and months, but it needs to begin with the exposition of the evil that has been playing out right beneath our noses and at our expense.

Because the wave of evil has had so much time to spread, it will continue to push its agenda even as our Lady and the forces of good begin to push back. I think we will see the great darkness (spiritually, not physically) and, eventually, the Church will be crucified. I expect this crucifixion will be preceded by a formal apostasy. This will all lead up to the resurrection of the Church and the promised Triumph of our Lady's Immaculate Heart.

I say all this as a way of pleading with everyone to stay faithful to Jesus, no matter what happens or how horrible or hopeless things appear. Our Lady is in control and we know who is going to win. As we see in the third chapter of Genesis, the woman will crush the head of the serpent. Learn from what happened 2000 years ago. The Apostles could not have understood the necessity of the Passion or Crucifixion at the time they were happening; they understood only after the resurrection. We have the privilege of understanding why it all had to happen even as we read about the Passion. Take that understanding of what happened then, and apply it to what is happening now. The reasoning is the same. Please be aware that all of this is a test of our faith. Will we

remain faithful to Jesus or will we not? Many will suffer various trials; some will be martyred. The test will not be an easy one, but there are only two choices for the answer and both have eternal consequences.

The Church needs to be crucified because she is the Bride of Christ and must be united to her Spouse in a like sacrifice of self. God has chosen you to be alive now, when the greatest events since the time of Christ are taking place. It will not always be fun, but it will be glorious. Stay with Mary and she will keep you close to her Son. Remain faithful and you will be part of the Triumph of the Immaculate Heart and you will participate with our Lady in crushing the head of the enemy of our souls.



On October 31, 2020 CPO planned an event at St. Raphael's Church. Fr. Altier offered Holy Mass, followed by a presentation: "Why God in His Mercy Allows Evil: The Divine Call to Repentance, Conversion and Reparation for Sin."

Father's talk is available on our website at catholicparents.org

The King's Good Servant

By Marilyn Grutsch

Look not on our sins, but on the faith of Your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with Your will.

We hear these words at every Mass, but what is the faith of His Church? We, as members of His Church, are all sinners and we certainly are living in a world without peace and unity. Who can represent us as the faithful of our Church?

We are living through a pandemic, an unresolved Presidential election, a starkly divided country in regard to politics and what is good and what is evil, witnessing the killing of our own offspring and elderly, a struggling economy, violence, threats of losing our freedom of religion, and a world filled with fear. Who will carry this torch of the Catholic faith? No doubt there are many in our time who are heroically fighting this battle, but sometimes it is hard to see clearly until we look back over time.

The 2000-year history of the Church has produced many along the way, who, in challenging times, had the courage to stand for what God has taught us, rather than to take the easy way out. One such person was St. Thomas More. He was a man of honor, faith, charity, honesty, fortitude, justice, hospitality, friendship, and loyalty to God and his country.

St. Thomas More lived in England amid the tumultuous times in the Church during the Protestant Reformation and at the time of King Henry VIII's reign. He was a devoted husband and father, a lawyer, a statesman, and Lord Chancellor of England, but died a poor man and a martyr for his faith in 1535.

This man, in his brief 57 years of



I die his Majesty's good servant, but God's first.
St. Thomas More

life in this world, left his impact on the people of his time and still, five centuries later, continues to inspire us. Even the twentieth century agnostic playwright Robert Bolt portrayed Thomas More as the tragic hero of his 1960 play: *A Man for All Seasons*.

What was it about St. Thomas More that made his life so memorable? The mark he left gives us a blueprint of true, unfaltering faithfulness to God while we live in this world.

The Archbishop, for whom he worked as a young page, was so impressed with Thomas' integrity and intelligence, that he sent him to study at Oxford. There he made many lifelong friends who shared his love of learning. Eventually, he became a brilliant lawyer and a statesman.

He grew up outside of London, son of a lawyer. Before he followed his father's wishes to become a lawyer, he discerned a religious vocation as he lived with the Carthusian Monks for a period of time. Eventually, he decided he was called to marriage.

His first wife died young, leaving him with small children. He married again and added children to their family. He loved nothing more than to be home with his family and to spend time in his home chapel praying. But he had within him a burning call to duty and love of his country, so that he was impelled to accept positions of undersheriff, statesman, and finally Lord Chancellor of England.

The king had great respect for Thomas and wanted his approval for all his decisions. Once Thomas asked him, *Why, if you have the support of all these other great men, do you need my assent?* The King answered, *Because you are honest, Thomas. And what is more to the purpose, you're known to be honest. Some follow me because of the crown. Others follow me because they're jackals with sharp teeth and I'm their tiger. Masses follow me because it follows anything that moves ... and then there's you. I respect your sincerity. Respect, Thomas, that's water in the desert.*

When the time came that the King wanted to divorce his wife, Catherine, so that he could marry Anne Boleyn, he demanded that everyone support him. And further, when he was not granted the divorce by the Pope, he separated from the Catholic Church and launched his own church, appointing himself the head. As king, he demanded that everyone in England sign an oath declaring that his first marriage (to Catherine) was invalid, that all his children with Anne Boleyn would be rightful heirs to the throne, and that the king, himself would be the new head of the Church of England, asserting that the country would no longer be loyal to the Pope. Sadly, most of the people of England,

either out of fear or weakness, agreed to his demands. Of all the bishops, only one, Bishop John Fisher, along with Thomas More, could not, in good conscience sign the oath, knowing full well the punishment for treason, for which they would be tried, was death. As Thomas once said, *Death comes for us all, my Lords. Yes, even for the Kings it comes.*

Many of Thomas' friends and family tried to convince him to just sign it. His long-time friend pleaded with him, *Look at these names who have signed. Why can't you do as I did and come with us for fellowship?* Thomas responded, *And when we die, and you go to heaven because you followed your conscience and I am sent to hell for not doing mine, will you come with me...for fellowship? Some men think the earth is round; others think it flat. It is a matter capable of question. But if it is flat, will the King's command make it round? And if it is round, will the King's command flatten it?*

Even Margaret, his beloved oldest daughter, knowing her father's commitment and loyalty to God, begged him, *Father, God more regards the thoughts of the heart than the words of the mouth. Then say the words of the oath and think in your heart otherwise.* To that, Thomas replied:

What is an oath then but words we say to God? When man takes an oath, he is holding his own self in his own hands like water. And if he opens his fingers then, he need not hope to find himself again. Some men are not capable of this, but I'd be loathed to think your father one of them. If we lived in a state where virtue was profitable, common sense would make us saintly. But since we see that avarice, anger, pride, and stupidity commonly profit far beyond charity, modesty, justice and thought, perhaps we must stand fast a little even at the risk of being heroes.

At his trial, one of his long-time acquaintances perjured himself under oath to convict him. Thomas' response was, *In good faith Rich, I am sorrier for your perjury than my peril. It profits a man nothing to give his soul for the whole world...but for Wales?* Once the verdict was made, Thomas then gave this final speech:

Since the court has determined to condemn me, God knoweth how, I will now discharge my mind concerning the indictment and the King's title. It is grounded then as an Act of Parliament which is directly repugnant to the law of God and His Holy Church, the Supreme Government of

which no temporal person may, by any law, presume to take upon him. This was granted by the mouth of our Savior Christ Himself to St. Peter and the Bishops of Rome, whilst He lived and was personally present here on earth. It is, therefore, insufficient in law to charge any Christian to obey these commands. And more than this, the immunity of the Church is promised in Magna Carta and in the King's own coronation oath... I am the King's true subject and I pray for him and all the realm. I do none harm, I say none harm. I think none harm... I die his Majesty's good servant, but God's first.

Thomas More was canonized a saint in 1935. He is a shining light to people of all times as we navigate this life on earth. St. John Fisher said of More: *A good man is not a perfect man; a good man is an honest man, faithful and unhesitatingly responsive to the voice of God in his life.*

This is especially pertinent now, as Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI warned, *We are living in a world of aggressive secularization, which can be described as the affirmation of this world and the rejection of the next.* Its aim is the removal of Christianity from culture and a move toward a *dictatorship of relativism which has as its highest goal one's own ego and one's own desires.* The secular state subtly invites us, "If you will bend the knee before me, then I will give you all the splendor and pleasures of the world."

What St. Thomas taught by his life is from Matthew 16:26: *What will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul?* In these troubled times, let us pray that we all might have a portion of the courage, integrity, and faithfulness to God as that of the great Saint Thomas More. *A Man for All Seasons* is a fitting title for his witness.

When statesmen forsake their own private conscience for the sake of their own public duties they lead their country by a short route to chaos.

St. Thomas More
A Man for All Seasons



*CPO honored our Blessed Mother
with a Rosary Procession
led by Fr. Altier on
Sunday, May 3, 2020*

CPO Board

*Fr. Robert Altier,
John Trojack,
Joe Kolles,
Kurt Virnig,
Terese Jensen,
Marilyn Grutsch
Colleen Perfect
(not pictured,
Jeff Davis)*

