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## What You Didn't Know About the Popes of Rome

by **Mark Owen**

On the evening of Saturday April 2, 2005, after receiving the Rite of Extreme Unction, Pope John Paul II passed away. At this time his chamberlain would have gone to the papal hospital bed and asked the Bishop of Rome a question, "Are you dead?" There would be no reply from the Pope.

The chamberlain would then pick up a silver hammer and strike the Pope on the head and repeat his question, "Are you dead?" Again there would be no reply. The chamberlain would then thrice call out the Pope's baptismal name. He would then declare the Pope to be dead.

This is the way the Church has determined papal deaths for centuries. This is the way of the world's oldest monarchy.

Since 1763 the august *Almanach de Gotha* has been the ultimate authority on the royal houses of Europe. Listed under "Reigning Sovereign Houses" is the Holy See. Therein is stated, "...the incumbent of the Holy See is considered by Christian sovereign families as the 'Father of the Family of Kings,' [and] his Holiness represents the OLDEST MONARCHY on earth."

The triple sovereignty of the Pope's Person, Holy See & Vatican City - is distinct in fact and in law. Internationally, he is not subject to any authority on earth. His Cardinals are considered to be Princes of the Church and peers of the sons

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of reigning monarchs. Each diocese is considered to be a royal fiefdom. The word "diocese" originally signified an administrative unit devised by the Emperor Diocletian, a tyrant noted for his persecution of Christians.

Following are brief sketches of some of the more interesting holders of the title "Vicar of Christ" (it should be noted that the Latin equivalent of the Greek "anti" is "vicarius," from whence is derived the word "vicar").

Without a doubt, there was one Pope who was completely mad. In 896 Stephen VII set in motion the trial of his rival, the late Pope Formosus who had been dead for 9 months at the time. Formosus' corpse was dragged from its tomb and arrayed on a throne in the council chamber. The corpse, wrapped in a hair shirt, was provided with council, who wisely remained silent while Pope Stephen raved and screamed at it.

The crime of Formosus was that he had crowned emperor one of the numerous illegitimate heirs of Charlemagne after first having performed the same office for a candidate favored by Stephen. After Stephen's rant, the corpse was stripped of its clothes and its fingers were chopped off. It was then dragged through the palace and hurled from a balcony to a howling mob below who threw it into the Tiber. The body was later rescued by people sympathetic to Formosus and given a quiet burial. Stephen was strangled to death a few years later.

In 964, Pope Benedict V raped a young girl and absconded to Constantinople with the papal treasury only to reappear when the money ran out. Church historian Gerbert called Benedict "the most iniquitous of all the monsters of ungodliness." The pontiff was eventually slain by a jealous husband. His corpse, bearing a hundred dagger wounds, was dragged through the streets before being tossed into a cesspit.

In October 1032 the papal miter was purchased for the 11-year old Benedict IX. Upon reaching his 14<sup>th</sup> year, a chronicler wrote that Benedict had already surpassed in wantonness and profligacy all who had preceded him. He often had to leave Rome in a hurry.

Gregory VII was a master forger, surpassing even the great fraud known as the "Donation of Constantine," the document that created the Papal States. Gregory had an entire school of forgers turning out document after document bearing the papal seal of approval. These documents were later systematized in the mid-1100s in Bologna by Gratian, a Benedictine monk. He called his work the *Decretum*, or Code of Canon Law. It was peppered throughout with several centuries of forgeries along with Gratian's own fictional additions. Gregory also formalized the celibacy doctrine in order to curtail the many gifts of church lands being given away to all of the illegitimate children of priests and bishops. According to Catholic historian Peter de Rosa in his book *Vicars of Christ*:

"Popes had mistresses as young as fifteen years of age, were guilty of incest and sexual perversions of every sort, had innumerable children, were murdered in the very act of adultery. In the old Catholic phrase, why be holier than the Pope?"

Another interesting figure was Alexander VI (formerly Rodrigo Borgia). He reigned from 1492-1503. Alexander committed his first murder at the age of 12. Upon assuming the Papal miter he cried, "I am Pope, Vicar of Christ!" In his *Decline and Fall* Gibbon referred to Alexander as the Tiberius of Rome. Like his predecessor Innocent VIII, Alexander sired many children, baptized them personally and officiated at their weddings in the Vatican. He had ten known illegitimate children (including the notorious Cesare and Lucrezia), by his favorite mistress Vannozza Catanei. When she faded, Borgia took the 15-year old Giulia Farnese. Farnese obtained a Cardinal's red hat for her brother who later became Paul III.

Alexander was followed by Julius II who purchased the papacy with his own private fortune. He didn't even pretend to be a Christian. A notorious womanizer who sired any number of bastards, Julius was so eaten away with syphilis that he couldn't even expose his foot to be kissed.

Under Leo X (1513-21), who cursed and excommunicated Martin Luther, specific prices were enumerated by the Roman Chancery for every imaginable crime. For instance, a deacon accused of murder could be absolved for 20 crowns. Once

pardoned, he could not be prosecuted by civil authorities. Two hundred years earlier, John XXII had done much the same thing, setting prices for crimes ranging from incest to sodomy.

During his pontificate Innocent VIII (1484-92) granted a 20-year Butterbriefe indulgence to persons who met his price. For a sum, one could purchase the privilege of eating favorite dishes during Lent. Leo X (Giovanni de Medici) commissioned the Dominican friar Tetzl to sell indulgences which released one from purgatory. Tetzl's famous refrain went, "As soon as the coin in the coffer rings, a soul from purgatory springs!"

Pope Sixtus IV charged Roman brothels a Church tax. According to historian Will Durant, in 1490 there were 6800 registered prostitutes in Rome. Pius II declared that Rome was the only city run by bastards (the sons of Popes and Cardinals).

The iniquity of the various Popes has filled many books, and one has to wonder if the Church has been cursed from the very beginning. After all, Constantine leveled the Stadium of Caligula and the Temple of Apollo and used the stones and marble from them to erect the original basilica of Peter. Could he have been engaging in an act of sympathetic magic, as some have alleged? Constantine's choice of building materials might account for the observation made in Rome by Martin Luther centuries later who declared, "If there is a Hell, Rome is built over it. It is an abyss from whence issues every kind of sin."

Very brief mention should be made of the staggering scale of the Inquisition. In his *History of the Inquisition*, Canon Llorente, who was Secretary of the Inquisition in Madrid from 1790-92 estimated the number of condemned in Spain alone to have exceeded 3 million, with 300,000 burned at the stake. A Catholic historian comments on the events leading up to the suppression of the Spanish Inquisition:

"When Napoleon conquered Spain in 1808, a Polish officer in his army, Col. Lemanouski, reported that the Dominicans (in charge of the Inquisition) blockaded themselves in their monastery in Madrid. When Lemanouski's troops forced an

entry, the inquisitors denied the existence of any torture chambers. The soldiers searched the monastery and discovered them under the floors. The chambers were full of prisoners, all naked, many insane. The French troops, used to cruelty and blood, could not stomach the sight. They emptied the torture chambers, laid gunpowder to the monastery and blew the place up..."

Rome was truly drunk with the Martyr's blood.

And the Papacy isn't faring much better in our modern age, and would appear to be in serious decline, if not in outright defeat.

In November 2000 Italian headlines screamed, "Devil Defeats Pope!" when *Il Messaggero* reported that the Pope had been confronted by a teenage girl in the Vatican who screamed insults in a cavernous voice during an audience. John Paul attempted an exorcism but his ministrations had no effect on the girl.

Devils in the Vatican would come as no surprise to Msgr. Luigi Marinelli. His book *Gone With the Wind at the Vatican* fairly flew off the shelves in Italy, revealing as it did stories of money-laundering prelates, sex abuse and Satanic rituals performed within the walls of the Holy See.

Marinelli's comments echo those of the late Fr. Malachi Martin, a former Jesuit and exorcist, whose 1990 book *The Keys of this Blood* contains the following disturbing information:

"Most frighteningly for John Paul, he had come up against the irremovable presence of a malign strength in his own Vatican and in certain bishop's chanceries. It was what knowledgeable Churchmen called the 'superforce.' Rumors, difficult to verify, tied its installation to the beginning of Paul VI's reign in 1963. Indeed, Paul had alluded somberly to 'the smoke of Satan which has entered the Sanctuary,' an oblique reference to an enthronement ceremony performed by Satanists in the Vatican. Besides, the incidence of Satanic pedophilia 'rites and practices' was already documented among certain bishops and priests as widely dispersed as Turin in Italy and South

Carolina in the United States. The cultic acts of Satanic pedophilia are considered by professionals to be the culmination of the Fallen Archangel's rites."

Adding fuel to the fire is ex-Jesuit Robert Kaiser with his recent book *Clerical Error*. Kaiser states that Malachi Martin was something of a confabulist who lived for 30 years as a kept man under the roof of Manhattan socialite Kakia Livanos, the ex-wife of Greek shipping magnate Stavros Niarchos. Kaiser goes on to say that Martin also stole his wife Mary from him at one point in the 60s when all three were quartered in Rome. Kaiser also surmises that Martin may have been a paid lobbyist for the American Jewish Committee.

In his new book *Glimpses of the Devil*, psychiatrist M. Scott Peck weighs in with many interesting comments on possession and exorcism. He also declares Martin to have been most scrupulous in his histories of the exorcisms recounted in *Hostage to the Devil*. However, according to Peck, although a formidable scholar and gifted polyglot (17 languages), Martin could by turns be a "pathological liar" and a "leprechaun." Needless to say, the jury is still out on the legacy of Malachi Martin.

On the other hand, the verdict on the pederasty that is endemic to the Roman priesthood, is in. The Church paid out more than \$1 billion in claims to victims of sex abuse by clergy in the 1990s alone. And the American branch offers a very disturbing treatment method to offenders. One startling example should suffice:

Fr. Jay Mullin was accused of molesting a boy more than 20 years ago in Boston. Then Cardinal Bernard Law commanded Mullin to be evaluated at St. Luke's Institute. The Institute is a Washington clinic that was profiled in a *Boston Globe* article of February 24, 2002:

"...Mullin was flown south in 1992 to a clinic outside Washington, D.C. The church-run clinic had a huge collection of child pornography of varying degrees, which ranged from soft porn to hardcore S&M images, all featuring pre-teen boys and girls..."

This would have to rate as the most devilish form of aversion therapy ever known. It would be akin to treating alcoholics with copious quantities of vintage wine or bombarding junkies with free packets of China White heroin. Truly degenerate and depraved lunatics were running the asylum known as St. Lukes.

Notwithstanding the scandal and shock of the aforementioned, Rome carries on quietly with her program of world dominion, leading the competition to establish the first one-world system that has ever existed. Their ultimate goal is global religious syncretism, and to eventually wield control and authority over every individual on earth. The human solidarity goals of the Roman Church are identical to the goals and objectives of the United Nations. This is why they are such a perfect fit. Rome only gives the appearance of objecting to the UN agenda. At the 1996 World Food Summit in Rome Cardinal Angelo Sodana pledged the Holy See's support for the UNs humanistic "Programs of Action."

Rome also has designs on Jerusalem.

For 46 years after Israel's rebirth the Vatican refused to acknowledge Israel's right to exist. But Rome wants to exert premier influence over Jerusalem, which will one day function as the capital of her World Church.

In a 1993 letter to the Pope, Shimon Peres promised to internationalize Jerusalem, granting the UN political control of the Old City and the Vatican hegemony over the holy sites within. This was confirmed by the Italian newspaper *La Stampa*. In March 1995 the Israeli radio station Arutz Sheva was leaked a cable from the Israeli Embassy in Rome, confirming the hand over of Jerusalem to the Vatican.

The future Pope will establish his throne one day within the walls of the rebuilt Temple in Jerusalem. It is from here that he will rule his World Church.

And this day may not be as far off as many believe. The cornerstones for the Third Temple have already been quarried by the Jewish group known as the Temple Mount Faithful. They are extremely well financed and organized. They have

also produced priestly vestments in accordance with scriptural outlines and are presently attempting to breed a perfect red heifer in anticipation of the coming dedication ceremonies. Obviously, Rome and the Temple Mount Faithful are headed for a showdown.

In a letter sent to the Vatican in January 2004, the TMF demanded that Pope John Paul return the Temple Menorah and other vessels and treasures removed in 70AD by Titus and taken to Rome, where they are presently held within the Secret Vatican Archives.

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