

Second Sunday of Lent – 03-13-2022

“For many, as I have often told you and now tell you even in tears, conduct themselves as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction. Their God is their stomach; their glory is in their ‘shame.’ Their minds are occupied with earthly things.”

Some of you may recall that some time back I mentioned a 1962 apparition of our Lady in Garabandal, Spain where she prophesied of a communist tribulation that would be unleashed upon all of humanity.

At the time, our Lady spoke of communism as if it had already disappeared but that it would return to wreak havoc on future generations.

However, in 1962 communism was in its heyday in the Soviet Union so her message must have seemed quite peculiar to those who heard it and examined its contents.

But then in November of 1989 we saw the fall of the Berlin Wall and the consequential collapse of Soviet style communism.

With the very rare exception of a few Catholic scholars, our Lady obviously knew something that most people didn't but she wanted to warn and prepare future generations who were willing to see with the eyes of faith.

The Church has always seen communism as the greatest modern threat to the world even before its codification by Carl Marx and Friedrich Engels in their 1948 pamphlet, the Communist Manifesto.

In fact, on November 5, 1936, Cardinal Eugenio Pacelli, the Vatican Secretary of State and the future Pope Pius XII, warned a very naïve President Franklin Delano Roosevelt of the great danger that communism posed to America.

FDR dismissed the future pontiff explaining that he was chiefly concerned about America sliding into fascism, not communism.

“Fascism was the fear, not communism. ‘No,’ replied Pacelli. ‘Yes,’ countered FDR. This went back and forth before a bewildered Pacelli finally said, ‘Mr. President, you simply do not understand the terrible importance of the communist movement!’” Very few did then and very few do now either.

How many of us here really understand or are even willing to consider the great threat that communism still poses today. I’m sure some would much rather dismiss this as the hysterical rantings of a right wing-lunatic.

They would say, look, the Soviet Union collapsed and we can handle China. But I’m not talking about Russia and China. I’m talking about communism right here at home – right under our noses – the avowed enemy of God and His Catholic Church.

Back in the early 1950’s many former American Communists testified before congress about the real threat that Soviet communism posed to the United States and how they had infiltrated many protestant organizations and even, although at the time to a lesser extent, the Catholic Church.

One of these individuals was Bella Dodd who eventually returned to her Catholic roots under the direction of then Monsignor Fulton Sheen.

Anyway, as she became more and more disillusioned with communism she became the target of suspicion among her comrades, especially a man named Alexander Trachtenberg, a leading USA Communist party head at the time and the one in charge of the Soviet Military Police in America.

Here is one of their conversations as taken from her memoirs:

“Trachtenberg once said to me that when communism comes to America it

would come under the label of 'progressive democracy.' 'It will come,' he added, 'in labels acceptable to the American people.'

"She said that Trachtenberg had told her in New York in 1944; 'When we get ready to take the United States, we will not take it under the label of communism; we will not take it under the label of socialism. These labels are unpleasant to the American people...We will take the United States under labels we have made very lovable; we will take it under liberalism, under progressivism, under democracy. But take it we will.'"

In the 1950's these terms would have elicited suspicion in the minds of the American people but not so much today. Have any of us been duped by these flowery terms – liberalism, progressivism and even democracy?

We only need to look around and see how the infiltration of communist thought has perverted many people to the point that they have totally abandoned the traditional teachings of their Catholic Faith.

Catholicism and Communism are in no way compatible. They are inimical to one another – diametrically opposed. Communism is a material system that seeks to destroy any semblance of God in society and even in the hearts of men, women and innocent children.

Anyone embracing communism, even under one of its more benign sounding names, is in danger of eternal damnation.

Communists and communist sympathizers conduct themselves as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction. Their God is their stomach; their glory is in their 'shame.' Their minds are occupied with earthly things.

And if we don't do anything and allow the enemies of the cross of Christ to succeed may God have mercy on us all.