



SSPX

Regina Coeli Report

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Perseverance

During every day and at all hours, Catholics ought to hope and pray for the grace of final perseverance, that is, that the moment of their death may coincide with their soul being in the state of grace. Although the chain of grace can be broken throughout one's lifetime, final perseverance is accomplished by restoring one's peace with God through the constant use of the means of salvation, particularly the sacraments of Confession and the Holy Eucharist and, ultimately, by drawing close enough to Our Lord that one would rather die than lose His life in one's soul.

This final perseverance is invariably connected to the daily perseverance Catholics should muster in all their affairs, both great and small. In times of hardship, whether privately or professionally, the failure to persevere on the natural level, such as

giving in to despair in the face of grief or economic loss, opens the door to faltering on the spiritual level. The world holds out the false promise of escape into alcohol, drugs, pornography, social media, and so forth. All of these tend to lead to or directly cause spiritual death and the loss of God's grace.

In all of life's manifold challenges, Catholics must call upon God for assistance while looking to the lives of saints and the received wisdom of the Catholic Church for guidance. It is not uncommon for people to believe they are living in "the worst of times," especially when they are surrounded by the ongoing crisis in the Church and the loss of faith in society, but that is not a license for despair. Instead, recall the words of St. Paul: "I can do all these things in Christ, who strengtheneth me" (Phil. 4:13).

Letter from the District Superior



Dear Friends,

This issue of the *Regina Coeli Report* covers an important topic, that of perseverance. We know that only those who persevere to the end of their life will be saved. Meanwhile, saving our souls is the “one thing necessary” for us to accomplish (Lk. 10:42). But today’s world presents obstacles to perseverance in the faith that make it more difficult than it has been in the past.

The first obstacle is today’s instability. Instability is an enemy to the constancy needed to persevere. Our society seems to be in a state of continual upheaval and the timeless wisdom of the past has been set aside to such a degree that, today, anything goes. The nuclear family that used to be the bedrock of society has been replaced by the ideal of a life that makes no commitments and never settles down to a routine. The atmosphere of change for change’s sake in which we live makes it more difficult to remain fixed in one’s purposes.

A second obstacle to perseverance today is the excess of information that is available. The virtue of hope is needed to be constant in pursuing a goal. But so many people today consume time reading about evils that do not concern them and about which they can do nothing. The regular intake of bad news discourages them and leads them to believe that their own goals cannot be achieved or that disaster will soon overtake them. Pushed into discouragement or even depression by the dark views communicated by the Internet world, such persons slowly give up their spiritual practices.

It is our hope that our Society of Saint Pius X communities provide families with the remedies they need to these obstacles and make perseverance in the faith both attainable and normal. It is good for families to be actively involved in the many events that take place at their chapels and schools: meetings of confraternities, serving and sacristy work, cleaning and maintenance, school academics and sports, social gatherings and fundraising drives. When we have a community in which to live out our faith on a day-to-day basis, we are able to enter into a rhythm that carries us from one year to the next. The practice of our faith makes up the fabric of our lives. In short, we persevere.



Fr. John Fullerton



Perseverance and the Crisis of Modernity

“Thus, the world is like an oil press: under pressure. If you are the dregs of the oil, you are carried away through the sewer; if you are the genuine oil you will remain in the vessel. But to be under pressure is inevitable. Observe the dregs, observe the oil. Pressure takes place ever in the world as, for instance, famine, war, want, inflation, indigence, mortality, rape, avarice; such are the pressures on the poor and the worry of the states: we have evidence of them . . . We have found men who grumble under these pressures and who say: ‘How bad are these Christian times!’ . . . thus speak the dregs of the oil which run away through the sewer; their color is black because they blaspheme: they lack splendor. The oil has splendor. For here another sort of man is under the same pressure and friction which polishes him, for is it not the very same friction that refines him?”



These words of St. Augustine of Hippo, taken from the Holy Doctor’s sermon preached in 410 AD at the Basilica of the Holy Martyr Quadratus, forms an epigraph to the German philosopher Karl Löwith’s study, *Meaning in History* (1949). Löwith, born to a Jewish family that converted to Protestant Christianity, witnessed firsthand how the vicissitudes of history shaped the men and thinking of his time during two world wars. Forced to abandon his native Germany in 1934, he joined other non-Catholic émigré thinkers such as Eric Voegelin, Hans Jonas, and Leo Strauss in attempting to examine how modernity had radically altered the way human beings perceive and relate to the world. Like Augustine more than a millennium earlier, Löwith and Voegelin in particular understood that when faced with pressures and uncertainty in this life, man was tempted to fly into despair, to become “the dregs” that flow freely into the sewers of anxiety, discontent, and ultimately malice. Only faith and hope in an eschatological end, in a life beyond this one, could man prove to be the “oil with splendor” that perseveres.

Unsurprisingly, these thinkers, steeped in both the pagan and Christian classical tradition, interfaced with their contemporaries in the Catholic world. Though they would come to propose heterodox ideas, the Jesuit theologians Hans Urs von Balthasar and Henri de Lubac observed early on in their respective careers that atheism, humanism, and immanentism posed a threat to the Catholic Faith. Leaning heavily upon Balthasar’s early trilogy, *Apokalypse der deutschen Seele* (*Apocalypse of the German Soul*), Voegelin saw that the crisis of modernity

was ultimately spiritual, with genetic and cerebral connections to the ancient heresy of Gnosticism. Instead of enduring the trials and tribulations of this life with firm reliance on the belief in God's final triumph over history, man succumbs to the desire to escape reality and remake the world in his own image by spreading "political religions" such as Soviet Communism or German Nazism.

These discussions, though seemingly academic and arcane, can continue to inform how Catholics interpret the contemporary world and their response to it. Catholics know all too well the deleterious effects the Second Vatican Council's humanistic turn has had on the life of the Church. No longer relying firmly on faith in Christ and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, churchmen speak casually in the vernacular of secular liberalism while ingratiating themselves with global elites who seek to respond to earthly problems without reference to divine or natural law. Communism and Nazism may no longer seem like immediate problems, but their ideological progeny rip away at the fiber of society.

Faced with the ongoing crisis in the Church and the uncertainty it engenders, Catholics are presented with the choice to resist and persevere or flee. Some have tried to chart a "middle path" in the form of sedevacantism, a thoroughly novel idea where adherents attempt to "remain Catholic" while denying the Church's catholicity. Resistance, which should always be the path of last resort, became the only option for faithful churchmen



such as Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre and the other clerics who continued to witness for the traditional Catholic Faith following Vatican II and the promulgation of the *Novus Ordo Missae*. Pelted with false accusations of schism and an illicit excommunication, the Archbishop nevertheless proved to be the "oil with splendor," refined rather than compromised by the pressure brought to bear by a hierarchy enthralled by worldly ideologies bent on "updating" (read: destroying) Catholic Tradition. Instead of draining out into the sewers, the Archbishop attracted young Catholic men throughout the world to form the Society of Saint Pius X.

Individual Catholics must decide what they will become "under pressure": the dregs or the oil? No amount of faithful attendance at the traditional Latin Mass or recitation of the Rosary guarantees freedom from affliction. Parents will have children who are misled by the vanities of consumerism. Economic hardships brought on by unscrupulous policy decisions made in Washington, DC or behind closed doors at international gatherings are going to continue. Public morality, once reflective of the so-called Judeo-Christian tradition, is likely to deteriorate further under the influence of gender ideology and identity politics. Catholics may want to give up, and even if they do not succumb to the world's ways, their confidence in the Church has been strained by decades of sacrilege and scandal. How do they remain faithful?

In these times, faithful Catholics must fight for perseverance—perseverance through earthly trials; perseverance in the Catholic Faith; and above all, final perseverance in God's grace. Holy Mother Church has bequeathed the instruments of salvation to her children: the sacraments, prayer, spiritual devotions, the example and intercession of the saints, and a rich reservoir of philosophy and theology. The world attempts to discredit these tools as obsolete relics of a bygone era, the products of superstition rather than reason; but the vitality of the traditional movement proves abundantly that they are just as efficacious in spiritual fruits today as they have been through the ages.

The whys and hows of history are difficult to discern; they are rarely susceptible to simple-minded explanations. Events and situations once thought impossible are now a reality. And just as the Apostles found their faith tested when their Lord and Savior died an ignoble death upon the cross, Catholics today must experience their own test of faith as they live through the Church's self-crucifixion. As the Apostles' perseverance was rewarded, so, too, shall the perseverance of Catholics find reward, both in this life and in the next (Lk. 18:30).



Perseverance in Practice

The Conference for Catholic Tradition

Since 2010, Angelus Press, the official publishing arm of the Society of Saint Pius X (SSPX), has held its annual Conference for Catholic Tradition. Spread out over a three-day period, this annual event brings together Catholic clergy, religious, academics, and lay faithful from around the United States and beyond to discuss the challenges facing traditional Catholics and how to overcome them while remaining moored in the timeless Catholic Faith.

The 2022 conference, which was held from October 21-23 and took as its theme *Restoring All Things in Christ*, applied the traditional wisdom of the Catholic Church to a broad array of spiritual, moral, and practical ailments that undermine contemporary society. In addition to informative talks delivered by SSPX clergy, religious, and traditional Catholic academics, the conference also included daily Mass, culminating with a Pontifical High Mass served by the Society's previous Superior General, Bishop Bernard Fellay. The 2023 Conference will take place October 19-22 at the DoubleTree Hotel, Overland Park, KS, and will provide talks on the important topic of *The Catholic Family in the Modern World*.

Those unable to attend the past conferences can order the talks through Angelus Press. By making all of the conferences available for order, Angelus Press hopes that the wisdom contained in them is accessible for all Catholics looking to strengthen their faith. For those looking to attend the 2023 Conference, information is available online at Angelus Press's website, angeluspress.org. Much more than an "academic exercise," every installment of the Conference for Catholic Tradition sets forth practical and spiritual

means for Catholics to persevere without compromising to the temptations of the world. The Conference is also a great opportunity for the faithful to see a bigger picture of the SSPX's work, spend three days of camaraderie with like-minded Catholics, and meet priests and religious.



Perseverance in Idaho

50 Years of Catholic Tradition in the Northwest

The Northwest's largest community of traditional Catholics celebrated 50 years of growth with an all-day symposium on December 10, 2022. Bishop Bernard Fellay was the keynote speaker at the symposium titled *Catholic Tradition in the Northwest United States*.

The church's 50th anniversary fell on Thursday, December 8, and was celebrated by a candlelit procession that evening after Mass. Other anniversary events included an Advent concert performed by the students of Immaculate Conception Academy and a sold-out banquet at the County Fairgrounds.

Fr. Vicente Griego, the prior of Immaculate Conception Church which is served by the Society of Saint Pius X, said of the Jubilee:

“We wish to celebrate the fifty-year history of Immaculate Conception Church, which has been a center of Catholic Tradition in the Pacific Northwest from which priests and religious have gone out to serve individuals, families and communities in the single desire to live faithfully the life Jesus Christ—preached and exemplified—by teaching perennial Catholic doctrine and morals, while sustaining this divine work by the Sacraments given us by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We wish to give thanks to God for His abundant blessings and to strengthen the fraternal and supernatural ties between the many souls who are spiritually nourished at Immaculate Conception Church, whereby we share our joys, sorrows, accomplishments and even failures



Archbishop Lefebvre visiting Immaculate Conception Church in Post Falls, Idaho in the early 1980's.

in mutual support to persevere and advance in the love of God.”

Priests at Immaculate Conception priory serve the needs of the faithful in three Northwest states: Idaho, Washington, and Montana. Missions are located in the cities of Post Falls, St. Maries, Ferdinand, and New Plymouth, Spokane, Edmonds, Kalispell, and Victor.

At a time when many modern Catholic churches are facing decline in Mass attendance or even closures, the number of traditional Catholics in the Northwest



The original Immaculate Conception Church was moved into its current position in late 1972 and dedicated December 8, 1972 (since replaced with a larger chapel in 1991-1992, below).



Beginning in the early 1970's, Catholic faithful in Post Falls and throughout the Northwest recognized the gravity of today's crisis in the Church. They called on Society priests hoping to receive the traditional Mass and sacraments. The priory established in Post Falls exists to make available to the faithful the Catholic Mass and sacraments in all their fullness. It exists to give divine life to their souls, which Christ came on earth to give.

continues to grow rapidly, from which come many young vocations to the Catholic Priesthood and the Religious life.

Approximately 600 families are affiliated with the Post Falls church, where priests of the SSPX celebrate seven Sunday Masses in the immediate Post Falls area, including at nearby St. Dominic School and the Carmel of the Most Holy Trinity in Spokane. These Masses are attended by about 1,750 people on Sundays.





In 1991, parishioners of Immaculate Conception came together to build a larger church for the growing community. Today there are over 600 families attending Immaculate Conception Church and nearly 200 students are enrolled in Immaculate Conception Academy. Post Falls is home to one of the earliest traditional Catholic centers in the United States, and today it is one of the largest.





Traditional St. Joseph's Altars

A St. Joseph Altar is an offering of love, labor and sacrifice in honor of the patron saint of the Universal Church. According to legend, the St. Joseph Altar originated in Sicily many centuries ago, during a period of drought and famine. In desperation, the people turned to St. Joseph asking his help and intercession. When the rains came and the crops prospered, their prayers were answered. In thanksgiving, the community made offerings to St. Joseph of their most prized possession, food! In his honor, they erected a lovely altar, with three levels to represent the Holy Trinity. They draped it simply and beautifully in white and adorned it with flowers. They then selected their finest grain, fruits, vegetables, seafood, and wine and invited all the poor to share in their prayer and festivity.

The custom and devotion continues to this day. Each year, altars laden with food are prepared on

March 19th to celebrate St. Joseph's feast day. Much hard work is involved, but participants joyously accept this as a form of sacrifice and a labor of love. Many hours are spent shaping and designing the elaborate loaves of bread, cookies and cakes which decorate the altar. Quite a number of these items are symbolic: Large golden-brown loaves of bread with a glossy finish of egg wash and sesame seed are rolled and cut into wreaths to represent the Crown of Thorns, hearts to symbolize the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, the shape of a Cross representing the crucifixion, a monstrance containing the Host, or palms representing those strewn in Jesus' path in Jerusalem.

In many parishes, an auction is also held with food and religious items going to the highest bidder to support the poor and the work of the Church.



At a traditional St. Joseph's Altar, such as the one pictured at left (at St. Joseph's Church in Ray Township, MI), a table is often set symbolically awaiting the arrival of the Holy Family.

Faithful from St. Michael's Chapel in DePere (Green Bay), WI created a vast array of cookies, cakes, and bread in honor of St. Joseph.



St. Michael's Chapel, DePere, WI, held their annual St. Joseph Day Bread Table/ Soup Sunday on Laetare Sunday. There was an abundance of delicious breads, sweets, soups, and more! A very fitting event, considering the Gospel of the Day, which recalls the multiplication of the loaves.



St. Joseph's Church in Ray Township, MI holds a cake decorating contest in conjunction with their St. Joseph's Altar each year. Beautiful cakes with religious themes vie for first place and are then auctioned off to benefit the church.



Traditional bread recipes, many with religious symbolism, surround the St. Joseph's Day Bread Table in DePere, WI.



On September 15, the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows, Sister Anne Marie, an Oblate Sister, made a final engagement with the Society of Saint Pius X. Our Lady of Sorrows is the patroness of the Oblate Sisters who were founded in 1973 by Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre. The Oblate Sisters assist the priests in the priories with various tasks such as sacristy, laundry, cooking, secretarial work, and teaching. Single women over the age of 30 who are interested in learning more about the vocation may write to the Novice Mistress at: St. Therese Novitiate, 22 La Combe, Salvan, Switzerland.



2023 Confirmations

Chapel	Date	Bishop
Arcadia, CA	Saturday, May 20	Bp. Tissier
Cleveland, OH	Saturday, Apr 22	Bp. Fellay
Garden Grove, CA	Sunday, May 21	Bp. Tissier
Walton, KY	Sunday, Apr 23	Bp. Fellay
St. Louis, MO	Sunday, June 18	Bp. Fellay
Dillwyn, VA	Saturday, Apr 29	Bp. Fellay
Post Falls, ID	Saturday, June 24	Bp. Fellay
St. Marys, KS	Friday, May 5	Bp. Fellay
Edmonds, WA	Sunday, June 25	Bp. Fellay
Kansas City, MO	Sunday, May 7	Bp. Fellay
Eddystone, PA	Saturday, Sep 30	Bp. Tissier
Oak Grove, MN	Saturday, May 13	Bp. Tissier
N. Caldwell, NJ	Sunday, Oct 1	Bp. Tissier
Long Prairie, MN	Sunday, May 14	Bp. Tissier
Chicago, IL	Saturday, Oct 7	Bp. Tissier
Veneta, OR	Tuesday, May 16	Bp. Tissier
De Pere, WI	Sunday, Oct 8	Bp. Tissier
Watkins, CO	Thursday, May 18	Bp. Tissier
Sanford, FL	Saturday, Oct 14	Bp. Tissier
Phoenix, AZ	Friday, May 19	Bp. Tissier
Davie, FL	Sunday, Oct 15	Bp. Tissier

International Pilgrimages

Youth Pilgrimage to the Holy Land - Walking from Nazareth to Galilee June 20–July 1, 2023

Next year's annual Youth Pilgrimage will make an unforgettable journey to the Holy Land, to walk in the footsteps of Our Lord. Visit Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Cana, Magdala, Ein Karem, Bethany, and much more. Walk for three days along the path that Our Lord would have walked from Nazareth to Galilee. For youth between 18 and 35 years of age. Accompanied by Fr. James Torzala and Fr. Scott Graves.

Catholic Writers and Saints of Italy July 24–August 5, 2023

Render homage to St. Thomas Aquinas in Roccasecca, Orvieto, Naples, Fossanova, and San Giovanni Campano. Pray before the relics of St. Francis and St. Clare in Assisi, St. Philomena in Mugnano, St. Catherine of Siena, St. Augustine in Pavia, St. Ambrose in Milan, and St. Alphonsus de Liguori in Pagani. Spend six nights in Rome and visit St. Peter's Basilica, St. Mary Major, St. John Lateran, and much more. Venerate Our Lady of Good Counsel in Genazzano, St. Maria Goretti in Nettuno, and St. Juliana Falconieri in Florence. Accompanied by Fr. Richard Boyle.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land September 16-26, 2023

Meditate and pray at the sites where Our Lord lived, taught, and suffered. Take advantage of this 11-day pilgrimage to increase your knowledge and love for Our Lord with excellent speaker and chaplain, Fr. Thomas Asher, Retreat Master at St. Aloysius Retreat House in Los Gatos, CA. Visit Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Ein Karem, the Sea of Galilee, Cana, and much more! Space is limited to 40 pilgrims.

For more information, please contact: Regina Pilgrimages
info@reginapilgrimages.com | www.reginapilgrimages.com

U.S. Pilgrimages

Pascua Florida Pilgrimage April 11 - 16, 2023

Come walk the path of the Floridian Martyrs from St. Thomas More Church in Sanford, Florida, to the Shrine of Our Lady of La Leche and the Mission de Nombre de Dios in the city of St. Augustine. Or sponsor the many priests and seminarians joining the pilgrimage, who will then journey for you and present your intentions to Our Lady of La Leche. For more information, please visit sspxflorida.com or contact stma.office@gmail.com, (407) 212-3032.

Upcoming Retreats

Men:

May 15-20	Ignatian	Ridgefield, CT
May 22-27	Ignatian	Los Gatos, CA
Aug 28-Sept. 2	Ignatian	Ridgefield, CT
Oct 2-7	Ignatian	Los Gatos, CA
Dec 11-16	Ignatian	Ridgefield, CT
Dec 11-16	Ignatian	Phoenix, AZ
Dec 13-16	3-day Ignatian	Los Gatos, CA

Women:

Apr 17-22	Ignatian	Ridgefield, CT
Apr 24-29	Ignatian	Los Gatos, CA
May 8-13	Ignatian	Phoenix, AZ
July 10-15	Ignatian	Ridgefield, CT
July 17-22	Vocations	Phoenix, AZ
Aug 7-12	Ignatian	Ridgefield, CT
Aug 28-Sep. 2	Ignatian	Los Gatos, CA
October 9-14	Ignatian	Phoenix, AZ
Oct 16-21	Ignatian	Ridgefield, CT
Oct 23-28	Ignatian	Los Gatos, CA
Nov 29-Dec. 2	3-day Ignatian	Los Gatos, CA

Mixed:

Oct 26-29	Matrimony	Phoenix, AZ
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Dates subject to change. For more information please contact:
816-733-2500 | www.sspix.org

Eucharistic Crusade

Monthly Intentions

March: For fathers of families

O Lord Jesus Christ, Who when Thou wast subject to Mary and Joseph didst sanctify the home life with ineffable virtues, grant that, by their joint assistance, we may profit by the example of Thy holy family and become partakers of their eternal happiness. Who livest and reignest for ever and ever. Amen..



April: In reparation for our sins

We adore Thee, O Most Holy Lord Jesus Christ, here and in all Thy churches that are in the whole world, and we bless Thee; for by Thy holy Cross Thou hast redeemed the world.

E-mail: eucharistic-crusade@sspx.org

Mass Stipends

The U.S. District is unable to accept any Mass stipends at this time. If you wish to have a Mass offered, we ask that you contact your local pastor or individual priest to arrange it. An announcement will be published at a future time when we have caught up sufficiently on our waiting list and are able to again receive Mass requests. Thank you for your understanding.