

Newsletter 2023-16

18208 Preston Rd Suite D9-552, Dallas, TX 75252

Fear not, nor be dismayed. Tomorrow go out against them, for the Lord will be with you.



Read this newsletter in PDF format for greatest clarity. Print out any sections you might want in a power-out situation.

Consider becoming a CORAC monthly donor: <https://corps-of-renewal-and-charity.myshopify.com/collections/donation>

-----♦-----
In this world, created by God in love, *for* love, evil always carries on with a handicap. It may run for a while, but it is outside of its ideal operating environment, and will grind itself down eventually. We can speed it up by throwing sand in its gears when possible: prayer and adoration in abundance, as well as a firm refusal to cooperate with evil designs. We're long past the time when we can just put our heads down and hope evil passes overhead. It's at our door; it's decision time.

Sheryl Collmer, editor

August 31, 2023

sherylc@coracusa.com

From the cockpit



CORAC founder Charlie Johnston travels from coast to coast in his trusty Outback to speak in person to those now weathering the Storm.

Moral Authority is the Air Which Keeps Formal Authority Rolling

Back when I was young, the leader of a management seminar said something that has always stuck with me. "The company decides who the manager will be – but the workers decide who the boss is," he proclaimed. Thinking about it, I figured it was an oversimplification - but largely correct. Workers respond to those they can count on to be just and responsive. Ideally, that is the proper manager. But if a manager is either a martinet or largely absent, the workers still find a leader and get the job done. In that case, the manager devolves into a nuisance or a useless appendage.

I have always tried to be just, including with people I disagree with. Two incidents come to mind.

When I was a boy, we organized what may be the greatest sandlot baseball league ever. We played every day during the summer, choosing up teams four or five times and having at it. Everybody played, including the littlest kids. The way we handled that is that if you chose a little kid, their outs didn't count but if they got a hit, it did. It was a rite of passage and pride for the little kids when we determined they had gotten good enough for their outs to start counting. We had a nice Mexican contingent (who kindly taught all of us to cuss in Spanish, so we didn't alarm any passing grown-ups). The Mexican players had "cousins" – family members who were migrant workers who would show up sporadically. They joined right in.

One day, there was a dispute about a call while some cousins were there. It raged for a bit and then they all asked me what I thought. I gave my call and we all went back to play. The cousins erupted in outrage, demanding to know why I should decide. The kids said if it got out of hand, they always had me decide so we could keep playing. "So what," the cousins demanded, "you think he's always right?" It was our regular player Gilberto who told them, "No, but when it gets out of hand he always says what he really thinks whether it hurts or helps his team – so it's always fair."

As a young adult who was very active politically in my home county, I was often called in to quietly arbitrate intractable disputes among various factions, including with many who were formally my opponents. One woman, in charge of a county agency for food and clothing distribution to people in need, came in to monitor an ongoing dispute between two local agencies trying to take regional control of it was astonished at what happened. The leaders of both groups made their case to me behind closed doors, I made my decision, and the dispute was settled.

She asked me what my title was. I told her I didn't have one. She said she had been trying to negotiate a settlement for months with no progress, so how did it just get settled with my decision without the screaming rancor? I shrugged and said that, behind closed doors, even most of my enemies trusted me to be fair and just. The lady – and her boss – became dear friends of mine. She never tired of telling the story of when we first met, claiming that, after the problem was solved, she just had to find out exactly who that "masked man" was.

The left is enamored of credentials and titles – at least when they hold them. They think holding a title means that everyone has to do what they say. This often leads them to abuse the formal authority they have, thinking that by forcing compliance, they cement that authority. But every time they coerce people into doing what they want by force, another chunk of their moral authority evaporates.

Moral authority is like the air inflating a tire. It is invisible, but vital. When it is all gone, the tire of formal authority is flat and useless. It is emblematic of the folly of the left that the very thing they think is the purpose of authority – to get their way and bend others to their will – is the thing that destroys any semblance of authority for them.

All authority comes from God. Moral authority comes from living His divine precepts with faithful fidelity. If you get a grant of formal authority and think, “Now I have the power,” you are already on the road to ruin. If you get a grant of formal authority and contemplate the great responsibility you have for the people you have been given authority over, you have the making of real potential success, under God. If you have no title but live justly and fearlessly, you will find people gravitating to you and discover you end with far more authority than those who wield titles and think it is all about power.

In days to come, most of us are going to wield authority in certain circles. I used to tell young parents to seek to be always just and true with their children. When children are young, there is a huge imbalance of power between them and their parents. But the truth is that *every* parent must ultimately stand in the docket of their adult children’s judgment. That judgment may be charitable, but it will be true.

All of us will stand in the docket of God’s judgment. Most of us will bear some title of formal authority along the way. That is always transient. Endeavor from the start to live moral authority under God and you will never find yourself running on flat tires and wondering why.

Charlie Johnston

If communication goes out for any length of time, meet outside your local Church at 9 a.m. on Saturday mornings. Tell friends at Church now, in case you can’t then. CORAC teams will be out looking for people to gather in and work with.

A SIGN OF HOPE BLOG

<https://corac.co/newsroom/#c-media-a-sign-of-hope>

Just Politics

Trinitarian Truths

Beyond the Failsafe (reposted widely on Twitter and Telegram)

BRIEF UPDATES

<https://corac.co/category/charlies-brief/>

It Is the Religion of Ignorance That Tyranny Begins (6 minutes)

The World of Squirrels (3 minutes)

A Heritage Deeply Embedded in the American DNA (7 minutes)

REVEILLE

A new CORAC podcast hosted by member Joe Gallagher. Try out the first episode:

“Wisconsin Field Day” <https://corac.co/2023/08/19/a-wisconsin-field-day-back-to-basics/>



News

THE SYNOD

Novenas, fasting and intensive study are already in the works to try to protect the Church against the possible outcomes of the upcoming “synod on synodality.” (It’s a made-up word.) The intentions of the synod have already been telegraphed by the *Instrumentum Laboris*, the appointment of voting lay members, and the requested participation of clerics who are antithetical to the moral tradition of the Church. Two resources to consult:

- The letter of Bishop Joseph Strickland to the faithful of his diocese, noting the unchangeable truths of the Faith. See the full letter in the Appendix. Also available here: <https://www.bishopstrickland.com/uploads/blog/d7c560a8b8d819ad343a83ba9bbabe0d66868460.pdf>
- The new short book, “The Synodal Process is a Pandora’s Box” is 100 questions and answers about the synod. You can read it online here: <https://www.tfp.org/the-synodal-process-is-a-pandoras-box/> or buy the book here for \$11: <https://store.tfp.org/the-synodal-process-is-a-pandoras-box/>

I can’t help thinking of the 90’s comedy series “Frasier.” Creampuff Niles tries to pique the interest of his pretentious brother, who is in a bored malaise. “There’s a wonderful lecture series on the history of Modern Lecture Series” he offers hopefully.

And we’re supposed to take this “synod on synodality” seriously??

Take a look at their logo. What are we, seven? Will Bert and Ernie be there?

The Synod is due to begin October 4. Join the 54-day rosary novena that began on Sept. 27 in the Diocese of Tyler, or begin your own. <https://returntotradition.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/54-days-novena.pdf>



DON'T FEAR THE COMING LOCKDOWNS (the rhino is already dead)

This is an interview of Dr. David Martin, who has a clear sense of the big picture. In this interview, he covers all the deceptions we’ve been subject to over the past few years, with a good sense of what may be coming.

<https://rumble.com/v3ayta4-dr.-david-martin-dont-fear-the-coming-lockdowns-the-cabal-is-already-dead.html>

The 23-minute speech of Dr. Martin to the EU Parliament which he references is here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mfLycFHBsro>

THIS IS AN IMPORTANT SPEECH. EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW THE CONTENTS OF IT.



COVID 2.0

Covid was never a dead issue; it was just held offstage until the global puppeteers had another use for it, or election season arrived, whichever came first. Meanwhile, the excess all-cause mortality has continued to increase alarmingly since the vaxxx rollout in early 2021. We were never out of the woods. We were just successfully distracted.

Now that the man called Biden is threatening a new set of mandates and hinting at a new vaxxx that *everyone* will have to submit to, the fight is back on. Here’s some helpful research to get us ready:

“mRNA, modRNA & Why It Matters.” Turns out that the mRNA vaxxes, which were represented to be messenger RNA, were actually lab-modified RNA and no one knows what those genetic tweaks will do in humans. This article is from Tom Renz, the attorney who brought out the devastating statistics about the damage done to our active military.

https://tomrenz.substack.com/p/mrna-and-why-it-matters?utm_source=profile&utm_medium=reader2

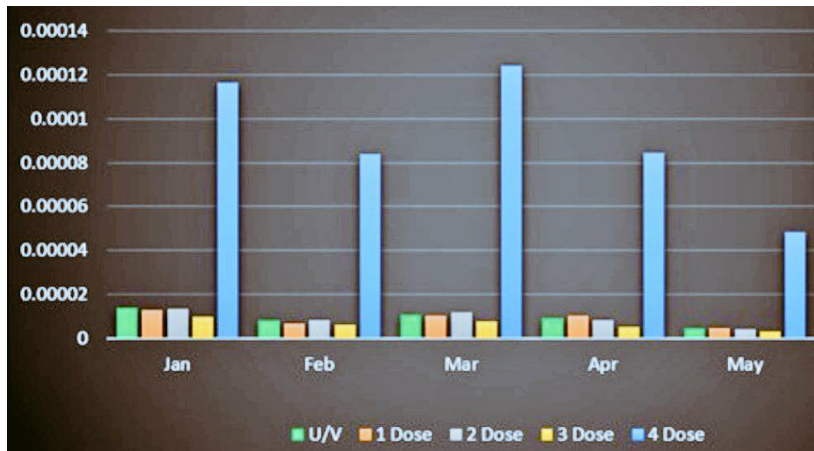
“Mask Toxicity”. The dangers of re-breathing CO2, including neuron death, learning impairment, birth defects and testicular toxicity. <https://vigilantnews.com/post/mask-toxicity-german-study-exposes-dangers-of-co2-re-breathing-neuron-death-learning-impairment>

“Disposable Face Masks” The billions of single-use masks discarded are a genuine threat. High levels of pollutants, including lead, antimony, and copper, are dispersed from the silicon-based and plastic fibers of common disposable face masks. Cancer formation is one of the greatest dangers. <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2021/05/210504112637.htm>

“We Will Not Comply” If you’re in any doubt where Trump stands on lockdowns, masking or vaxx mandates, listen to this. minute-and-a-half video: “to every covid tyrant who wants to take away our freedom, hear these words: WE WILL NOT COMPLY.” <https://rumble.com/v3dhh0-trump-hear-my-words-we-will-not-comply.html>

“They Don’t Work.” The below chart shows covid deaths by vaccination status for the first five months of this year. These are deaths in England, but a similar graph is available for nearly every country in the world. Not only did the vaxxx *not* prevent the victims from getting covid, but they had a much greater likelihood of dying with every shot they took. That fourth dose was a killer, literally. Note that these are deaths from covid only. This was no accident.

COVID DEATHS BY VACCINATION STATUS



MASKS UNMASKED

I hear many people saying they will go to jail before they’ll put a mask back on themselves or their children. It won’t come to that if we stand together in united non-compliance. With enough people refusing to comply, the push will fizzle out. Just say no. Masks are not good for your health, and they cripple natural immunity.

From [Dr. Simon Goddek](#) (PhD, Biotechnology): “I consider them to be a health hazard because the following happens when you wear a mask, from a medical point of view:

1. You breathe in your own exhaled air again. This leads to more carbon dioxide and nitrogen oxides in your blood.
2. You absorb less oxygen than usual. Oxygen is essential for all vital functions of the body.
3. Your lungs are no longer “ventilated” as they should be. This promotes lung disease.
4. If the mask is worn for more than half an hour, it will become contaminated with pathogens that you will inhale.
5. A mask cannot repel viruses.”

Do you need mega-evidence? Try here: https://c19science.info/COVID-19_Masks.pdf



BIOCLANDESTINE & THE BIOLABS

An independent journalist going by the name BioClandestine has been investigating and writing the story of the US biolabs in Ukraine from the first day Russian troops entered Ukraine. Very few other Americans are paying any attention to the story at all. The Dirty Tricks brigade in the US government is blocking all attempts of the Russian military to present the evidence, but headlines from around the world show that this evidence is being seen by just about everyone but the American public. Here’s why: Kirillov said, “the Pentagon’s biological projects are linked to the US Democratic Party, whose leaders act as the masterminds of military- biological research and the creators of covert money-laundering schemes to benefit a narrow circle of US elites.” Read more here: <https://bioclandestine.substack.com/p/russian-mil-begin-naming-names-fauci>

From early 2022: <https://bioclandestine.substack.com/p/us-biolabs-program>



WEAPONIZATION OF COVID

Most Americans are not aware that covid and the vaxxx were projects of the US Department of Defense. When those origins are investigated, it casts the whole monstrous enterprise into a whole different light.

<https://www.conservativewoman.co.uk/how-the-us-weaponised-the-war-on-covid/>



MUGSHOT HEARD ROUND THE WORLD

Pardon my snickering, but I just love it when the malicious plans of the enemy blow up in his face. Leftists hoped to bring shame to Donald Trump by requiring his submission to a mug shot, and they couldn't have raised his popularity any more dramatically if they'd had a century to plan it.

To be clear, the indictment in Fulton County is spurious. Trump is cited for Tweeting things like, "Georgia hearings now on @OANN" and "Has anyone informed the so-called (says he has no power to do anything!) Governor @BrianKempGA & his puppet Lt. Governor @GeoffDuncanGA, that they could easily solve this mess, & WIN. Signature verification & call a Special Session. So easy!" and "Many States want to decertify the mistake they made in certifying incorrect & even fraudulent numbers in a process NOT approved by their State Legislatures (which it must be). Mike can send it back!"

He was basically tweeting a Civics lesson. It can't be election interference if it merely tells people how elections are supposed to work under our own law.

So they did it; they indicted him, arrested him, booked him and took the mugshot. They will wish they hadn't. The mugshot has endeared him to people who feel wrongly judged, unjustly condemned, never listened to by the "rich men north of Richmond." The Left just made Trump a folk hero.

<https://www.thegatewaypundit.com/2023/08/mugshot-ages-trump-delivers-master-class-art-political/>



TUCKER ON A ROLL

Tucker Carlson, cut loose from any network news outfit, continues to amaze with high-level guests who are free to speak as they wish without the plug being pulled. His interview with Trump on the night of the first Republican primary debate has now exceeded 250 million views, all over the world. The interview featured a calm, relaxed Trump, as is usual during one-on-one conversations. <https://twitter.com/TuckerCarlson/status/1694513603251241143>

Then Tucker interviewed Viktor Orbán, the prime minister of Hungary, on a trip to Budapest. Orbán is a conservative Christian ally in Europe, in a country that shares a border with Ukraine. Always edifying to see how our country is viewed from abroad: <https://twitter.com/TuckerCarlson/status/1696643892253466712>

There is serious speculation about Tucker interviewing President Vladimir Putin next. African politicians are lining up. The "real-est" news is happening on a social media channel outside mainstream media control; the balance of power is shifting. That's worth a watch. "Tucker on X" <https://twitter.com/TuckerCarlson>



SCHOOL OF TRADITIONAL SKILLS

Coming on September 11, a week-long virtual school of homesteading skills you need for an authentically self-sufficient, independent life. Beekeeping, composting, fermenting, herbal medicine, raised bed gardening, and more. Sign up for free and carve out time in the week beginning 9/11 for some great training in homesteading.

<https://schooloftraditionalskills.com/summit/#calendar-section>



RIVER OF FREEDOM

New Zealand was one of the countries most severely abused by their government during the covid hysteria, under the execrable Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern. This documentary gives Kiwis reason for pride, as courageous protestors refused to knuckle under to a hostile government. Whatever we suffered in the US, it was vastly worse down under, in New Zealand and Australia. Watch the trailer here: <https://vimeo.com/739852453>



ALTERNATIVE SHOPPING

We hate to give our money to corporations colluding to destroy our families and our country. Several platforms have been developed to migrate consumers to products that don't fund our destruction, a parallel economy. See if they work for you.

PublicSQ. I reviewed this app about a year ago, and it was mostly helpful for people who lived in cities. I see now that they have grown quite a bit, and there are even a good number of patriot-owned businesses in my little town of Tyler.

<https://publicsq.com>

Patriot Switch. Online shopping for household staples manufactured by family-owned businesses outside the mega-corporations. <https://patriotswitch.com>

The illusion of choice: There are hundreds of consumer goods brands in our country and the vast majority of them are all owned and controlled by just a handful of mega-corporations. Even when you think you are buying natural products in many cases those natural companies have been absorbed by these giant corporations.



LASAGNA GARDENING

Learn a method for large-scale soil amendment. If you live in a place like I do, with hard clay only ½-inch below the surface, you almost have to employ a method like this. Step-by-step instructions. <https://homesteadingfamily.com/how-to-use-the-lasagna-gardening-method-or-layering-method/>

NUREMBURG CODE

The covid vaxxes that were mandated in 2021 and 2022 were always sub-legal and experimental. They had *not* completed the FDA approval process and were *not* approved, only authorized for “emergency use” conditions if which no alternative treatment were available. Those conditions never existed, as physicians like Zev Zelenko, the Front-Line doctors and Peter McCullough demonstrated, with their early treatment protocols. That is why the government and the pharmaceutical industry had to disavow ivermectin and hydroxychloroquine; the fact that they worked is exactly why they had to be suppressed; otherwise the vaxx could not have been granted its “Emergency Use Authorization.”

Early on, there was discussion about the covid vaxxes violating the Nuremburg Code. The Code was adopted in 1947 by civilization after the Second World War, in which large-scale criminal medical experiments were carried out in Germany and in the occupied countries. During the Nuremburg trials of war criminals, evidence of shockingly vicious, torturous medical experiments on prisoners was shown, and steps were taken so that such horrors would not be repeated.

Thereafter, any medical experimentation had to conform to these principles:

1. **Voluntary consent.** Free and informed consent requires the absence of coercion or mandates, and sufficient comprehension to make an informed decision. All the risks, inconveniences and hazards must be made known, *the effects upon his which may possibly come from his participation in the experiment*. Remember the blank inserts in the boxes of vaxx vials that said, “This Page Intentionally Left Blank”? Remember how the VAERS reports never made it to the evening news? Ask any vaxx-accepter what the consent formed looked like; they will not be able to tell you.
 2. The experiment should yield **fruitful results** for the good of society, *unprocurable by other methods*. Yeah, ivermectin.
 3. The experiment should be based on the results of **animal experimentation** that justify the experiment. Remember that the animal trials of mRNA coronavirus injections resulted in death of the animals.
 4. The experiment should be so conducted as to **avoid all unnecessary physical suffering** and injury. Remember the videos of people who went into anaphylactic shock while they were still sitting in the chair, seconds after receiving the shot, and died.
 5. No experiment should be conducted where there is **reason to believe that death or injury** will occur. Remember all the “died suddenly” outcomes of the last two years. Remember the athletes, high schoolers, news broadcasters, stand-up comedians and small children who collapsed for no apparent reason. Remember the funeral directors who were brave enough to report the massive increase of deaths since early 2021, overwhelming their facilities. Remember the long, rubbery blood clots. Remember the spike in still-births and miscarriages, and even full-term infants born dead.
 6. The **degree of risk** to be taken should never exceed the humanitarian importance of the problem to be solved. Remember the military statistics that showed 300-1000% increases in cardiac and neurological events after vaxx.
 7. **Proper preparations** should be made to protect the subject against *even remote* possibilities of injury, disability or death.
 8. The experiment should be conducted only by **scientifically qualified** persons. Remember the pop-up test sites. Remember the storefront vaxx clinics. Remember the pharmacies who wouldn’t and couldn’t respond to inquiries of just what ingredients were in the shots. Remember the teams that were going door-to-door with the shots.
- Let the Nuremburg 2.0 trials begin, and for the sake of all that you treasure, do not comply with any new experimentation.



STAY STRONG

The World Council for Health advises you to reclaim your power in the following ways:

BE A WARRIOR, NOT A WORRIER

<p>Breathe freely</p>  <p>Boycott local businesses that enforce unscientific mask policies.</p>	<p>Keep your data to yourself</p>  <p>Do not allow yourself to be tracked and traced.</p>
<p>Do your own research</p>  <p>Disregard health guidance coming from the government.</p>	<p>Spend time with friends and family</p>  <p>It strengthens your health and heart.</p>
<p>Just say no</p>  <p>Reject untested and unproven experimental vaccines.</p>	<p>Encourage others to join you</p>  <p>Explain what it means to be a warrior, not a worrier.</p>
<p>Protect your children</p>  <p>Stand between them and the politicians, government or Big Pharma</p>	<p>Take back control of your wellbeing</p>  <p>Become your own Council for Health.</p>

CORAC GENERAL DISCUSSION ON SIGNAL

To chat with other CORAC members nationwide, you can join the General Discussion channel on Signal. Download the Signal app and register your account. Then search “CORAC General Discussion” and request to be added.

Immediate Action

USE CASH

You can never go wrong with cash; use it for everything.

ADORE JESUS

Give Jesus one hour each day, in person or with the livestream from St. Maximilian Kolbe’s chapel in Poland: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KEv6oBxB7s4>



FIND LOCAL FOOD SOURCES

Find local food sources *now*. <https://www.localharvest.org>



CORAC Website

Check out some of the great **NEW STUFF** listed here, and explore past articles under each topic. There is now a search function on the website, so you can type in your favorite subject and see all the items we have on that topic.

There’s a new resource on our website called **The Conversation**. This is a posting of particular topics that crop up among the specialty teams. Check out this page to see what’s being discussed: <https://corac.co/the-conversation/>

Health & Wellness <https://corac.co/health-and-wellness-teams/>

The national health team has produced a Functional Homeopathy series outlining treatment of common conditions. Give it a look! Other goodies: making poultices, the anti-covid cookbook, and foraging medicinal plants.

Sustainable Living <https://corac.co/sustainable-living-teams/>

Tallow soap recipe, water filter recommendations and building a rocket stove. Scroll to the bottom of the Sustainable Living page for a list of recommended books to have on-hand, and other excellent websites for sustainability projects.

Communications <https://corac.co/communications-teams/>

Basic electricity parts 1 & 2, shortwave listening to the CORAC Sunday netcast, protecting devices from EMPs.

Education <https://corac.co/education-team/>

Getting started in homeschooling, assorted topical education cards

Crisis Scenarios <https://corac.co/crisis-scenarios-team/>

Disaster deck, cards for every possible emergency scenario

Prayer <https://corac.co/category/prayer-teams/>

Desmond Birch on the Grace Force podcast, “Are We In The End Times?” plus 11 weeks of Catechism classes

Prayer

SEPTEMBER PRAYER INTENTIONS

*For Charlie, his Subaru, and CORAC gathering organizers as they plan, publicize, and hold events in Arizona, California, Oregon, and Washington during September and October; and that these gatherings bear good fruit and uplift all involved

*For CORAC courage and prudence as our members may need to resist unjust governmental mandates that have moved beyond the rumor phase in some places

*For fruitful ideas and actions as CORAC members continue to Go Forth, joining together with people of other churches to do good deeds for people in their local communities

*As always, that CORAC members volunteering for all of our committees in all of our regions receive the gifts of creativity, good humor, resilience, camaraderie, and unexpected joy of spirit as we serve the Lord in these days

*That existing and new CORAC members may strongly desire and find the means to participate in financial support for our vital ministries

*For all intentions carried in the hearts of CORAC members and those posted on the CORAC Prayer Hotline, with gratitude for prayers answered in our daily lives

St. Gabriel, enlighten us.

St. Michael, defend us.

St. Raphael, protect us.

Ave Maria, Stella Maris!



PRAYER HOTLINE

Email prayer requests to the CORAC Prayer Hotline at prayerteams@coracusa.com, and we will post your request (using first names only) on the CORAC Prayer Hotline Signal group.

Appendix



DIOCESE
of
TYLER

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

August 22, 2023

My Dear Sons and Daughters in Christ:

May the love and grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ be upon you always!

In this time of great turmoil in the Church and in the world, I must speak to you from a father's heart in order to warn you of the evils that threaten us, and to assure you of the joy and hope that we have always in our Lord Jesus Christ. The evil and false message that has invaded the Church, Christ's Bride, is that Jesus is only one among many, and that it is not necessary for His message to be shared with all humanity. This idea must be

shunned and refuted at every turn. We must share the joyful good news that Jesus is our only Lord, and that He desires that all humanity for all time may embrace eternal life in Him.

Once we understand that Jesus Christ, God's Divine Son, is the fullness of revelation and the fulfillment of the Father's plan of salvation for all humanity for all time, and we embrace this with all our hearts, then we can address the other errors that plague our Church and our world which have been brought about by a departure from Truth.

In St. Paul's letter to the Galatians, he writes: "I am amazed that you are so quickly forsaking the one who called you by {the} grace {of Christ} for a different gospel {not that there is another}. But there are some who are disturbing you and wish to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach {to you} a gospel other than the one that we preached to you, let that one be accursed! As we have said before, and now I say again, if anyone preaches to you a gospel other than the one that you received, let that one be accursed!" (Gal 1:6-9)

As your spiritual father, I feel it is important to reiterate the following basic truths that have always been understood by the Church from time immemorial, and to emphasize that the Church exists not to redefine matters of faith, but to safeguard the Deposit of Faith as it has been handed down to us from Our Lord Himself through the apostles and the saints and martyrs. Again, hearkening back to St. Paul's warning to the Galatians, any attempts to pervert the true Gospel message must be categorically rejected as injurious to the Bride of Christ and her individual members.

1. Christ established One Church—the Catholic Church—and, therefore, only the Catholic Church provides the fullness of Christ's truth and the authentic path to His salvation for all of us.
2. The Eucharist and all the sacraments are divinely instituted, not developed by man. The Eucharist is truly Christ's Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity, and to receive Him in Communion unworthily (i.e. in a state of grave, unrepentant sin) is a devastating sacrilege for the individual and for the Church. (1 Cor 11:27-29)
3. The Sacrament of Matrimony is instituted by God. Through Natural Law, God has established marriage as between one man and one woman faithful to each other for life and open to children. Humanity has no right or true ability to redefine marriage.
4. Every human person is created in the image and likeness of God, male or female, and all people should be helped to discover their true identities as children of God, and not supported in a disordered attempt to reject their undeniable biological and God-given identity.
5. Sexual activity outside marriage is always gravely sinful and cannot be condoned, blessed, or deemed permissible by any authority inside the Church.
6. The belief that all men and women will be saved regardless of how they live their lives (a concept commonly referred to as universalism) is false and is dangerous, as it contradicts what Jesus tells us repeatedly in the Gospel. Jesus says we must "deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow Him." (Matt 16:24) He has given us the way, through His grace, to victory over sin and death through repentance and sacramental confession. It is essential that we embrace the joy and hope, as well as the freedom, that come from repentance and humbly confessing our sins. Through repentance and sacramental confession, every battle with temptation and sin can be a small victory that leads us to embrace the great victory that Christ has won for us.
7. In order to follow Jesus Christ, we must willingly choose to take up our cross instead of attempting to avoid the cross and suffering that Our Lord offers to each of us individually in our daily lives. The mystery of redemptive suffering—i.e. suffering that Our Lord allows us to experience and accept in this world and then offer back to Him in union with His suffering—humbles us, purifies us, and draws us deeper into the joy of a life lived in Christ. That is not to say that we must enjoy or seek out suffering, but if we are united to Christ, as we

experience our daily sufferings we can find the hope and joy that exist amidst the suffering and persevere to the end in all our suffering. (cf. 2 Tim 4:6-8)

8. In the weeks and months ahead, many of these truths will be examined as part of the Synod on Synodality. We must hold fast to these truths and be wary of any attempts to present an alternative to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, or to push for a faith that speaks of dialogue and brotherhood, while attempting to remove the fatherhood of God. When we seek to innovate upon what God in His great mercy has given us, we find ourselves upon treacherous ground. The surest footing we can find is to remain firmly upon the perennial teachings of the faith.
9. Regrettably, it may be that some will label as schismatics those who disagree with the changes being proposed. Be assured, however, that no one who remains firmly upon the plumb line of our Catholic faith is a schismatic. We must remain unabashedly and truly Catholic, regardless of what may be brought forth. We must be aware also that it is not leaving the Church to stand firm against these proposed changes. As St. Peter said, "Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life." (Jn 6:68) Therefore, standing firm does not mean we are seeking to leave the Church. Instead, those who would propose changes to that which cannot be changed seek to commandeer Christ's Church, and they are indeed the true schismatics.

I urge you, my sons and daughters in Christ, that now is the time to make sure you stand firmly upon the Catholic faith of the ages. We were all created to seek the Way, the Truth and the Life, and in this modern age of confusion, the true path is the one that is illuminated by the light of Jesus Christ, for Truth has a face and indeed it is His face. Be assured that He will not abandon His Bride.

I remain your humble father and servant,



Most Reverend Joseph E. Strickland
Bishop of Tyler