

A Catholics Simple Choice

Support Grave Notorious Sin or Stand with Jesus

By

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Every Catholic enters into a covenant with God at Baptism when He gives us new life and grace and we serve for His greater glory. This lifelong moral commitment and covenant is our connection to Jesus Christ. This connection is renewed at every Mass when receiving the Eucharist. Our birth and Baptism, our first Communion and Confirmation are all part of the graces of this covenant. God gives us His blessings and in return we give Him our obedience and commitment to the cross.

Yet, we sometimes allow public leaders to pull us away from God and into a public sin that could mark our soul and even seal our eternal life in hell. Abortion is one of these sins. A sin that is echoed by the millions of babies screaming for the mercy that we refused to give. Fostering lies about church teaching is yet another grave public sin. When Vice President Biden supported abortion and married two gay men he completely violated his faith, corrupted the real teachings of the Church, and started a false teaching of the Catholic way. He committed grave notorious sin and became a false prophet of our faith.

The only way to fully understand the seriousness of notorious sin and anyone who supports it is to look at the words of the true leaders of our Catholic faith. Cardinal Burke, the past leader of the Supreme Tribunal of the Apostolic Signatura, said *"The discussion among the Bishops uncovered a fair amount of serious confusion regarding the discipline of can. 915. First of all, the denial of Holy Communion was repeatedly characterized as the imposition of a canonical penalty, when, in reality, it plainly articulates the responsibility of the minister of Holy Communion, ordinary or extraordinary, to deny Holy Communion to those who obstinately persevere in manifest grave sin."*

Pope John Paul II issued an encyclical on Holy Thursday 2003 entitled "Eucharist and the Church," and warned that anyone conscious of a "grave sin"...who obstinately persists in a manifest grave sin, is not to be admitted to Eucharistic Communion.

Pope John Paul II's encyclical letter, "Ecclesia de Eucharistia" issued on April 2003 states: "37. *However, in cases of outward conduct which is seriously, clearly and steadfastly contrary to the moral norm, the Church, in her pastoral concern for the good order of the community and out of respect for the sacrament, cannot fail to feel directly involved. The Code of Canon Law refers to this situation of a manifest lack of proper moral disposition when it states that those who **obstinately persist in manifest grave sin are not to be admitted to Eucharistic communion.***"

The following question was asked of Father James Buckley, FSSP: *What about the politician who, perhaps due to a failure to comprehend the gravity of abortion, argues that he or she is "personally opposed to abortion" but consistently votes for measures that support abortion? Since such a person does not consider his action gravely wrong, he may not be in a state of mortal sin.*

Father Buckley responded in this way: "When someone suggests that notorious sinners are not really notorious sinners because they lack knowledge of serious sin, he or she is retreating from the objective criteria the law demands. **Secondly, it is not that the pro-abortion politician lacks knowledge of the Church teaching, he rejects it.** The evil is in the will and not in the intellect."

St. Thomas Aquinas, Summa Theologica, III:q 80: article 6

I answer that, "A distinction must be made among sinners: some are secret; others are notorious, either from evidence of the fact, as public usurers, or public robbers or from being denounced as evil men by some ecclesiastical or civil tribunal. Therefore Holy Communion ought not to be given to open sinners when they ask for it."

And lastly a letter from the Congregation for Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments issued in July 2002: "In view of the law that "sacred ministers may not deny the sacraments to those who opportunely ask for them, are properly disposed and are not prohibited by law from receiving them (Canon 843.1) there should be no such refusal to any Catholic who presents himself for Holy Communion at Mass, **except in cases presenting a danger of grave scandal to other believers arising out of the person's unrepented public sin or obstinate heresy or schism, publicly professed or declared.**"

I know some of you will say "politics," this is politics. Yes, it is politics; but it is the politics of corrupted public leaders who are Catholics in name only and are attempting to infiltrate the Church with doctrine counter to our

Catechism. They use their public office and policy as a means to diminish our Church and Catholic doctrine in order to protect their own political future and not for the good of the nation or the Church. It is about how politicians can confuse your hearts and ultimately, by their example of defying Church doctrine turn you away from the teachings of Jesus Christ the very founder of the Church. Do you think God cares about what political party you belong to? Probably not, but He does care about you letting your political party lead you away from your faith. Abortion is morally wrong and a grave notorious sin against God and the Church by disrespecting and disregarding moral law. If you are voting for those who support abortion you are joining them in their public grave notorious sin. So I ask, "Are you in communion with the Church, or in alliance with those who practice sin by their actions?" You cannot be both.

Put aside your political anger for a moment, spend some time on your knees in front of Jesus and ask Him for the mercy we refused to show the unborn; so that we may see why voting and how we vote moves our nation either towards God or away from Him. Pro-abortion politicians are not only asking you for your vote, they are inviting you to join them in the eternal damnation by grave notorious sin. Many politicians have taken the theology question of marriage and made it into a political argument. Less we forget, in Genesis God defined marriage as between one man and one woman. It is the only marriage Christians can support. So we are left with how to make a public display to show our repentance for the notorious sin of supporting abortion and same sex marriage? Being the loving God He is, He provides us that chance this election, when we choose between candidates who support the tenants of our faith and those who do not.

Our faith and our quest for eternal salvation; our test of true repentance for supporting grave and notorious sin in the past, gives us one correct answer in the four choices when we vote for the next president. 1) The Republican Platform that supports life, marriage, and religious liberty. 2) The Democratic Platform that supports the LGBT movement, same sex marriage and abortion on demand, 3) the Libertarian Platform that reflects "do as you want just don't hurt anyone else," and 4) staying home and hiding from the dangers our Church now faces. We are called by God to occupy until He returns; not to hide from the truth. As we said above St. Ignatius reminds us the soul has one of two movements: towards God or away from God. One of these four choices will move us towards (closer to) God. Which do you believe will save our nation from the same judgment that Israel faced when they defied God? Which choice will save your soul?

As Catholics we are called to put aside all false idols and those who worship them; these can include such false idols as abortion, same sex marriage,

political parties and a culture of death. As Saint John Paul II said *"Do not be afraid, do not be satisfied with mediocrity. Put out into the deep and let your nets down for a catch."* As Catholics our only choice to finding a clear path to Jesus, is to repent and vote for the culture of life. We each will decide in November and choose not only a president, but the path of our eternal salvation, or damnation. God knows our hearts, and so do you know your own.

While the Bishops state they cannot tell you who to vote for but to examine your conscience, I think it wise to tell you that feelings are not conscience. Supporting sin is not an acceptable conscience choice. Voting for the culture of death kills the unborn child and your eternal soul. So this election, choose wisely. As for me I will vote for life, and the platform from the party that protects it; as well as protecting marriage and the rest will work itself out.