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THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH— THE ONLY ANSWER

Fr. Francis E. Fenton

No honorable, intelligent, informed American can fail to be profoundly disturbed as he beholds the condition of extreme immorality which currently pervades and contaminates the USA. Several thousand unborn infants are murdered each day; the practice of illicit sex in almost every conceivable form is rampant; devil worship is no longer a rare occurrence but is rather becoming ever more common; the country is flooded with pornography of all kinds; homosexuality (sodomy) is presented as but a lifestyle while its multitude of practitioners becomes increasingly militant; secular humanism is the prevailing "religion" of the day; the sellout of the USA is proceeding ever more openly and effectively as our traitorous "leaders" in the American government collaborate in myriad ways with Communism towards the merger of America and Soviet Russia—and the eventual establishment of the One World Order; efforts towards the ultimate formation of a One World Church likewise continue unabated, the prime role here likely being occupied by John Paul II; the huge lie-machine known as the American news media ceaselessly pours forth its pro-Communist, anti-American propaganda to multitudes of gullible individuals; the conspiracy of Freemasonry, well protected by the powers that be in Church and State, continues its satanic work of subversion; and Mikhail Gorbachev, whose Communist empire holds millions in slavery, is the idol of countless Americans.

While the above is but a partial listing it is surely quite sufficient to point up the extent and depth of the immorality which is presently corrupting and destroying the USA. The examples cited would seem quite sufficient too to cause deep anxiety and concern on the part of any mature and principled individual contemplating them. Nor must we neglect to mention as further reason for distress the steady advance of the horrendous AIDS disease with its potential for massive deaths in the years ahead.

Since this newsletter, however, is a traditional Roman Catholic publication, it is with that particular group in mind that this article is written. While many traditional Roman Catholics are as exceedingly disturbed by the prevailing moral decadence of the nation as are so many of their fellow citizens, it is the destruction (from a human perspective) which has befallen their beloved Church over the past 25 years or so which is rightly and understandably the principal cause of their concern. Never would it have dawned on them, prior to Vatican Council II, that the Roman Catholic Church could ever possibly be in the condition of chaos in which it is at the present time. Unquestionably, what has happened to that Church since that Council has been a calamity without precedent in its history—and the paramount proof of that calamity is the current non-Catholic Conciliar Church.

For numerous traditional Roman Catholics this has indeed been a cause of prolonged and continuing anguish. For some of them the experience has been nothing less than traumatic. And yet, as understandable as this reaction may be, is it right and proper that such Catholics should remain forever distressed and depressed because of the grave affliction that has come upon the Church? Should they indefinitely persist to "languish in fruitless and unavailing grief (and) sorrow as those who have no hope?" Is this the will of God? Surely it is not.

However lamentable be the current human state of the Church, no traditional Roman Catholic should allow himself to become despondent and to despair over this. To be gravely concerned and disturbed is one thing; to despair, to lose heart is something else. Concern, yes; despair, never. Rather should we look upon the present tragic Church situation as a test of our personal faith in God and His Church, bearing in mind that the good Lord will never allow us to be tempted (tested) beyond our power effectively to resist. Rather too let us look upon the dire circumstances which today afflict the Mystical Body of Christ as so many means of strengthening our faith and of showing and proving our loyalty to the Church. The greater the challenge involved, the more pleasing to God and the more glorious is the victory in successfully confronting that challenge, whatever it may be.

And then there is this thought, surely a continuing cause for joy: How fortunate we truly traditional Roman Catholics are and how fervently grateful to Almighty God we ought to be that we have, and have persevered in, the Faith despite all of the trials and turmoil and subversion that has for so long now assailed the Roman Catholic Church. In traditional Catholicism we possess the greatest treasure in all the world, our Roman Catholic Faith. Exceedingly small in number though our ranks may be, in traditional Catholicism

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REFLECTIONS ON THE MASS

Fr. Oswald Baker (England)

The Mass is at the heart of the life of the Church of Christ, the Catholic Church. As formed under divine guidance in the early centuries, it has always been the sign and the basis of the Church's unity. The so-called new Mass—and this cannot be asserted too often or too gravely—is a totally sacrilegious mockery of the true Mass. It was concocted not only by non-Catholics but also by conspirators, nominally Catholics, whose purpose was to undermine and destroy Catholicism.

The Mass is Our Lord's offering of Himself to the Father made at the Last Supper, consummated on the Cross, and perpetuated on the altar through the hands of His priests. So closely identified is the priest with Our Lord that it is equally correct to assert either that the priest offers Our Lord in the Mass or that Our Lord offers Himself through the hands of His priest. When we speak of the Eternal Mass, we mean that Our Lord's everlasting intercession in Heaven for us is projected into time, to become an action taking place on an altar on earth. That is the meaning of the Mass. And merely by being consciously present you have some part in the Mass. By being purposely present you are already taking part. "Hearing Mass" is a sound, orthodox, time-honoured, truly Catholic expression. You can participate in the Mass fully and profitably without a single vocal utterance.

We are reminded of this at the very beginning, when the priest before the altar prays, "I will go unto the altar of God...Thy light and Thy truth have brought me to Thy holy mountain." The altar is called the mountain of God. God is everywhere, but on the silent mountain top you can feel His presence more, and you understand why men of old ascended mountains to offer sacrifice. To be at Mass is to be raised up and escape from the din and turmoil of the world. Religion is, indeed, escape, but of the mountain-climbing type, not the opium kind. The silence during much of the Mass, solemnly and wisely decreed by the Council of Trent, is immensely beneficial to the soul.

Going up to the altar the priest prays from Holy Scripture to prepare our minds, to induce a spirit of recollection. You can follow the Mass in your missal if you like, or pray in your own words, or just reflect prayerfully on this blessed privilege—especially these days—of being at Mass; or on your good fortune in being an authentic Catholic and what a difference it makes to you and your life; or on the tremendous effect Our Lord's coming had on the world—this is why the missal is moved from one side of the altar to the other for the reading of the Gospel, signifying the transition from the old world BC to the new, the world of the Gospel.

When you see the veil taken off the chalice, you know that the preparatory part of Mass is over and that the real action is beginning. Bread and wine are offered. What you give in the collection represents the offering of yourself. As the bread now held up on the paten by the priest is soon to be changed into the Body of Christ, so do we want to change and become Christ-like. This is what we might call the theme of the offertory. When you see the chalice held up, pour into it especially any grief or other trials you have, present or prospective. The priest turns and bids us pray, "Orate fratres," that such personal part of the Sacrifice, our own contributions, be acceptable to God.

At the warning bell there is a hush in the church at the approach of the supreme moment when the priest bows low over the altar to carry out the most sublime command ever given by human lips: "Do this in commemoration of Me." History, the pivotal point in world history, is to come alive. Our Saviour's offering of Himself in sacrifice, on Calvary, is to become a present event, to be witnessed and shared by us. The priest lifts up, not bread now, not wine now, but Jesus Christ, personally present under those appearances, mysteriously renewing the Sacrifice to God the Father which He made by His death on the Cross. The connection is not obvious to you as you kneel at Mass. You have no visual impression identifying what the priest is doing at the altar with Our Lord's death on the Cross. The precise purpose of the elevation, first of the Host, then of the Chalice, is to put us in mind of the actual separation of the Body and Blood of Jesus which took place on the Cross. He does not, He cannot, die again on the altar, but the act of offering Himself for us on the Cross, that offering He does actually renew in the Mass through the hands of the priest.

We offered our bread and wine. At the Consecration they are changed into the living Christ, the "Lamb of God Who taketh away the sins of the world." We offer the Victim to God. In Holy Communion, God gives Him back to us. Holy Communion is an anticipation of the blissful union with Our Lord for which we are destined in Heaven. In Holy Communion Our Lord comes to infuse His graces and blessings to the full extent of our present capacity, to enrich us with all the favours we are capable of receiving. Assure Him that you earnestly desire to live no longer for self but for Him, not for self-gratification but solely for the accomplishment of His holy will. †

DEVIL CULTS: A GROWING MENACE

John Kenneth Weiskittel

Of all the news stories to make front-page headlines last spring, few were as shocking as that relating to the discovery of a satanic drug-smuggling cult in northern Mexico. When police raided the group's farm in April they found the remains of 15 people (as many as eight others may have been killed), most of whom were *sacrificed* in an attempt to gain demonic protection for the cult's criminal enterprises.

Evidence seized in the raid included ritual paraphernalia, kettles filled with animal parts and what were identified as *human blood and brains*, and a necklace crafted from *a victim's vertebra*. By early May the cult's ringleader, Cuban-American Adolfo Constanzo, 27, was traced to a Mexico City apartment, where the cultists engaged police in a shoot-out. When the suspects were finally overwhelmed, the arresting officers learned that the group's head had been shot to death by a follower. This, explained the suspect, was ordered by Constanzo, who threatened that the underling would "suffer in hell" if he disobeyed the command.

Only a generation ago such a report would indeed have made singularly unbelievable reading. Today it is but the most recent and sensational in a series of violent crimes linked to Satanism. In the past five years alone America has witnessed:

- The 1984 slaying of a Long Island, New York teenager by Richard Kasso, 17, high priest of the Knights of the Black Circle. The victim was forced to say "I love Satan," then was brutally stabbed and had his eyes gouged out. Before hanging himself while in jail, Kasso told authorities that "the Devil had ordered him to kill."

- Richard Ramirez, serial killer in Los Angeles' 1985 "Night Stalker" murders. In court he was photographed with a pentagram (an occult five-pointed star also found painted on the wall of some of the victims' homes) and left the trial shouting "Hail Satan!"

- What Monroe, Michigan police described as "the acting out of a satanic sacrifice" in the 1986 shotgun death of a high school student by his younger brother. The shooting took place on a "witches' sabbath" and various items seized by investigators—a dagger, machete, black candles, inverted-cross medallions, a black-hooded robe, satanic ritual books and heavy metal rock music tapes—were displayed at a news conference.

- Also in 1986, the murder of an Albuquerque, New Mexico man by bow and arrow, the prime suspect being his 15-year-old son. The boy had told his mother that he would "get even" after his father destroyed his copy of *The Satanic Bible*. Police found occult symbols in the youth's room: a pentagram surrounding the number "666" (identification of the beast in Apocalypse 13:18) and the inscription "Satan Rules."

- Last year three teens in Carl Junction, Missouri, charged with beating a fourth boy to death. All were involved with the occult and had an obsession with a satanic form of rock known as black metal. One of the accused, Peter Roland, said that "something took over my mind."

Many other similar murders and suicides have been documented. When lesser offenses—such as theft, vandalism, animal mutilations and the desecration of churches and cemeteries—are added, the total jumps dramatically. Scripps Howard News Service reported in September, 1986, that "as many as 800 crimes now under investigation by police nationwide are said to be linked somehow with devil worship." (cited Thomas W. Wedge with Robert L. Powers, *The Satan Hunter*, Daring Books, 1988, p. 142)

As the examples above indicate, the phenomenon of modern Satanism is not restricted to any part of the country or any size of community (or, as in the case opening this study, to only the United States). And, while most of the cultists mentioned in these cases are teen delinquents, many of their adult counterparts hold respectable positions in society—doctors, teachers, attorneys, military personnel, etc.—and often go *completely undetected*. No American can afford to ignore the danger posed by the devil cults. The present article's purpose is to provide our readers with a summary of these groups and their beliefs and how to recognize their activities, as well as to examine Satanism's history and the causes contributing to its current rise.

Legions Of The Night

On April 30, 1966, (Walpurgis Night, a witches' sabbath) the Church of Satan was founded in San Francisco by ex-circus lion tamer and police photographer Anton Szandor LaVey, who announced the "beginning of the Satanic era." LaVey (born Howard Levy) claims his "Church" has as many as 20,000 members, though this includes many who are affiliated only through mailings. Nevertheless, the *unofficial* membership may be many times that total.

Three years after starting the Church of Satan, LaVey wrote *The Satanic Bible*. This paperback has gone through 30 printings and hundreds of thousands of copies of it have been sold. It is carried by many secular bookstore chains and is said to outsell the Christian Bible on college cam-

puses. It is also, writes Thomas Wedge (an Ohio juvenile probation officer who acts as a consultant for law enforcement agencies), the "one book almost certain to be found" by police investigators at the scenes of suspected satanic crimes. (p. 119)

In 1975, Michael Aquino, an Army Reserve lieutenant from California, broke with LaVey's group after a six-year association to form his own occult order, the Temple of Set. Set (or *Seth*), a jackal-headed god of ancient Egypt, had, among other alleged powers, that of conveying sinister knowledge to magicians; thus he is frequently identified with Satan. According to Aquino's literature, the devil has been misrepresented by theologians as something fearful but "to free and creative spirits he became a symbol of human pride and genius." (cited, Wedge, pp. 125-126) After attacking the "persecution" of the satanic cult during the European witch trials centuries ago, Aquino declares that it can once again "surface openly," restore "the essence of its ancient forerunner" and add to "its 2,000 years' experience along the Left-Hand Path." (ibid, p. 126. The *Left-Hand Path* alluded to here is synonymous with sorcery, as the Latin word for "left," *sinister*, also means "evil" in that language.) Temple of Set membership is no more than 150 but those few take their "religion" seriously. (Aquino regards LaVey as little more than a showman.)

Other known groups include the Worldwide Church of Satanic Liberation, the Process (also known as The Church of Final Judgement), Ordo Templi Orientis (OTO, *Order of the Eastern Templars*) and the Continental Association of Satan's Hope (CASH). The first of these is new and we've seen no information on them but we understand their leader has appeared on TV talk shows. The Process was founded in London in the 1960's by an ex-Scientologist*, Robert DeGrimston, and it recruited actively in the Los Angeles area in the latter part of that decade, where as many as 200 young Americans may have joined. It divides worship between three "gods"—Jehovah, Satan and Lucifer—and holds an equally distorted view of the Second Coming, teaching:

> Through love, Christ and Satan have destroyed their enmity and come together for the End: Christ to Judge, Satan to execute the Judgement...The Lamb and Goat must come together. Pure love descended from the Pinnacle of Heaven, united with Pure Hatred raised from the depths of Hell. (cited, Vincent Bugliosi with Curt Gentry, *Helter Skelter*, Bantam Books, 1975, pp. 637-638. Bugliosi, prosecutor of the Tate-LaBianca trials, argues convincingly that, "if (mass murderer Charles) Manson himself may never have been a member of the Process, he borrowed heavily from the satanic cult.")

We now pass over the OTO for the moment to turn to the Montreal-based CASH, a mail-order group that offers *The Magic Power of Satan*. A brochure for the book promises: "The mighty power of our Lord Satan can now become part of you! Whatever you need or want, our lord Satan can get it for you quickly and easily! You can now discover for yourself a new world through the infernal power of the mighty Satan, lord and rightful ruler of this earth!" (cited, Wedge, p. 137) CASH advises its clients (customers?) that, rather than "go to church to grovel or pray on Sunday," they should seek "to dominate others" and put them "under your power." (cited, ibid, p. 138)

All of these groups fit to some extent the profile the Anglican Church once used to describe the Process: "(they present) two faces to the world. One is that of pious respectability and the other that of self-indulgence." (cited, Ed Sanders, *The Family*, Avon, 1972, p. 74) Which is to say that they counsel their members to obey the laws of the land—the laws of *God*, of course, are another matter. But it is quite probable that these "lawful" satanists represent a *minority*. A larger group of free-lance cultists includes many "who read the writings of LaVey (but) choose to overlook the author's cautions against breaking the law..." (Wedge, p. 127) Gruesome crimes committed by these latter are animal mutilation, grave robbing, cannibalism, and human sacrifice.

How many satanists live among us? A difficult question to answer. Figures coming from organized groups likely would fall below 100,000, and they could total far less as there is no reason to think the groups in question would be above padding their membership rolls. What, then, of the unaffiliated? If anything, this poses an even thornier problem since the people under consideration are not only independent but, by and large, secretive as well. Still, such difficulties have not prevented some authors from hazarding guesses. The foreword of a new study tells us: "In 1976, the number of active satanists in the U.S. numbered nearly half a million. By 1985, that figure almost tripled..." (Vickie L. Dawkins & Nina Downey Higgins, *Devil Child*, St. Martin's Press, 1989, p. 2.) Although the authors do not give a source for those figures, it may be from the Cult Awareness Network which they mention on the next page. There it is noted that the network's phone calls on satanic activity have risen from four to five a month of a few years ago to the present four to five *per day*.

The thought that there are over a million devoted followers of the Prince of Darkness is enough to chill the blood, yet it is fair to question how scientific an estimate this really is. Certainly one could come up with such a figure by counting

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*The Church of Scientology is the religion founded in 1953 by science fiction writer L. Ron Hubbard. It claims it can save people through a method of removing their mental blockages caused by negative experiences in this and "past" lives. Hubbard was influenced by his "good friend," Aleister Crowley, the British satanist. (Bent Corydon and L. Ron Hubbard, Jr., *L. Ron Hubbard: Messiah or Madman*, Lyle Stuart, 1987, pp. 255-261, 332-336)

the copies sold of *The Satanic Bible* and other such works. But is this a valid barometer? Only if we conclude that most of the readers of those books (or at least the majority) become active, practicing satanists. Fortunately, such is not the way human nature works. Some curiosity-seekers (a dangerous practice) will read a portion, see it as worthless, blasphemous drivel, pitch it to its rightful resting place at the bottom of the trash can and be done with it. Another perhaps larger number, wanting to get their "money's worth," will read the thing but reject the aims proposed, in whole or in part. Many members of either of these classifications may be considered *potential* satanists, as may those who dabble a bit in occultism but then drop it. Why these types are to be so classed is obvious: the purchase of such a publication shows a lack of any deep-rooted moral scruples, much less fidelity to Christ. Even in such groups, however, there are individuals who are given the light to see their error and flee it.

This, then, leaves us with those who become dedicated cultists. How many of *these* are there? Any figure we put forth is speculative and we will give the highest we believe probable. All indications are that the biggest buyers of such books are impressionable young. If one in ten commit to the "left-hand path," this would mean the total would be in the neighborhood of 150,000. Add to this the figure in established groups and the combined total reaches 250,000. Although a fraction of the above estimate, this still represents a sizable number given the sort of activity involved. And, because said books clutter the marketplace, the number of the young (and not so young) to fall victim to such evil ensnarement will continue to grow.

The Devil And All His Works

Christ called Satan "a liar, and the father thereof" and "a murderer from the beginning" (John 8:44), for not only did he cause Adam to sin with his deceit, but he sowed the seed of discontent in Cain's heart which led to the first murder. And even now he is the great adversary of human happiness who, writes Saint Peter, "as a roaring lion, goes about seeking whom he may devour." (I Peter 5:8)

In the area of religion this is also the case; hellish untruths reap a harvest of souls. It has been observed that the devil is a diplomat, willing to compromise to take what he can get. When we look beyond the One True Church ordained by God we see a multitude of other faiths. Since none bears the divine stamp, all can be seen to be under Satan's sway to one degree or another. Scripture tells us quite explicitly that pagans worship demons under the guise of idols. (Psalms 95:5, 105:35-37; I Corinthians 10:20) Although some pagan deities at times may appear to have a beneficent or beneficial side, Saint Paul teaches that Satan "transformeth himself into an angel of light." (II Corinthians 11:14) Jews and Muslims deny that Christ was the Messiah, thus depriving themselves of the font of salvation, while heretics and schismatics, denying His Church's teachings and authority, cut themselves off from the plentitude of graces springing from that font. Hence, on Good Friday the Church prays that God "take iniquity from their hearts" (pagans), cause them to "be delivered from their darkness" (Jews) and free them from "the wiles of the devil" (separated Christians).

Returning more directly to our theme, it will be noted that, for the most part, members of these religious bodies do not consciously serve Satan. So foul an offense as this attracts few takers and, even in this tiny group, few are dedicated enough to the evil principle that they become proficient in casting spells and the like. The usual satanic murder is carried out by conventional means (guns, knives, poison, etc.). Much rarer are those done supernaturally. One instance of the latter sort may have involved Anton LaVey and one of his prize "witches," Hollywood sex symbol Jayne Mansfield. Her involvement with the Church of Satan was something that her attorney, Sam Brody, felt would be bad for her film career and he told LaVey that he would expose the high priest as a crook and charlatan if he didn't leave his client alone. LaVey claims to have placed a ritual curse on Brody, then warned the actress that she would be at risk if she traveled with him. Ignoring this, Mansfield set out with Brody for New Orleans. On June 29, 1967, they were both killed in a horrible automobile "accident"—she was *decapitated.* (Richard Cavendish, ed., *Man, Myth & Magic,* Marshall Cavendish Co., 1970, Vol. 23, p. 3205)

Whether this was murder or just a curse that got out of hand—if it was either—is known only by LaVey. If it was murder he showed diabolical cunning for he would have relied on the fact that, if charges were brought against him, they would have been dismissed in our materialist court system. To the modern mind any connection between the curse and the deaths has to be coincidental since we all "know" that a curse can't work. Even some Catholics hold this "enlightened" opinion; to believe otherwise, they tell us, means it is necessary to admit that demonic forces can cause disturbances in the natural order. Yet J. P. Arendzen, writing on "Occult Art" in the *Catholic Encyclopedia* (1911 ed.), notes:

> Catholic theology defines magic as the art of performing actions beyond the power of man with the aid of powers other than the Divine, and condemns it and any attempt at it as a grievous sin against the virtue of religion, because all magical performances, if undertaken seriously, are based on the expectation of interference by demons or lost souls. Even if undertaken out of curiosity...(it) is sinful as it either proves a lack of faith or is a vain superstition. The Catholic Church admits in principle the possibility of interference in the course of nature by spirits other than God, whether good or evil, but never without God's permission. As to the frequency of such interference, especially by malignant agencies at the request of man, she observes the utmost reserve. (Vol. XI, p. 199).

We agree for the most part with this but believe the writer

overcautious in stating that the Church merely accepts the "possibility" of such events. Demonic possession, for example, though rare, is clearly taught to be a very real spiritual occurrence that produces physical prodigies (levitation, speaking unknown tongues, etc.) and so from the time of Christ she has validated the priestly office of *exorcist.* True cases of ritual magic are probably just as rare but it would be rash indeed to dismiss them for this reason. Saint Thomas Aquinas, in listing the causes of paganism, far from ruling out such a potential in the black arts, concluded that "the fundamental cause must be sought in the devils, who cause men to adore them under the form of idols, *therein working certain things which excited their wonder and admiration.*" (Sum. Theo. II, ii 94)

The most noteworthy illustration of sorcery in the Old Testament is surely the contest that pitted Moses and Aaron against the pharaoh's magicians. Aaron's staff when cast forth became a snake; the Egyptians duplicated this with their staffs but were swallowed by Aaron's. (Exodus 7:8-13. Modernists would no doubt call this a fable but they don't hesitate to explain the Resurrection in like fashion.) The Acts of the Apostles reveals two episodes of interest: Simon Magus, a skilled sorcerer who had "bewitched" the people of Samaria "with his magical practices" and then became a Christian, only to succumb to the pitfall that is at the root of magicians—the desire for *power* (Acts 8:9-24); and the bedeviled city of Ephesus where many converts publicly burnt their expensive magic books (Acts 19:17-20).

Among the heresies battled by the Church in her post-Apostolic days were Gnostic cults, some of which anticipated the Process by giving worship to both God and the devil. (We can only speculate as to whether some of the horrors Imperial Rome attributed to Christians, such as human sacrifice, were actually being carried out by Gnostics in the name of Our Lord.) Other Gnostics included the Cainites, who revered the first murderer. It isn't until later that we see references to the more familiar trappings of organized Satanism. The legendary figure of Faust, who sold his soul to Satan, is today believed by serious scholars to have really lived. In 1507, the German Abbot Trithemius of Spanheim warned in a letter of one "Faustus Junior, Fountain of Necromancers (that is, those who summon the dead in order to know the future—JKW), astrologer, magnus secundus..." (cited, Francis X. King, *Witchcraft & Demonology,* Exeter Books, 1987, pp. 98-99) The abomination called the black mass originated no later than 1340. The purpose was and is to give homage to Satan principally by the defilement of a consecrated Host (thought to be most effective if performed by a defrocked priest). An outbreak of devil worship earlier this century caused the Holy See to decree tighter security for tabernacles, stating: "Worldwide thefts of Sacred Hosts are responsible for the new legislation concerning the safe custody of the Blessed Sacrament. It has been known for many years *that attacks upon tabernacles are not inspired by the value of the sacred vessels.*" (emphasis added—JKW; cited, Father Montague; Summers, *Witchcraft & Black Magic,* Causeway Books, 1974, p. 211) Many of the features of the black mass are still in use by certain groups: the prayers recited backwards, the nude woman as altar, human sacrifice, preferably an infant (rare but it *does* occur), and the inverted cross (now worn as jewelry by fans of black metal rock).

Masonic Cults

Hell-Fire Clubs sprung up in the 1700's on the British Isles. Opinions are mixed as to the activities of these secret gatherings. One side holds that they were meetings of true diabolists, while another suggests that they simply consisted in drunken debaucheries and took their name from the participants' irreligious practice of attending them dressed as monks and nuns. In 1721, King George I commanded that they be suppressed. At Westminister, the Club's "President was dubbed King of Hell, and it was common knowledge that the President was Philip, Duke of Wharton." (ibid, p. 215) It was also common knowledge that the same Duke *was Grand Master of all English Freemasonry.* (see *Seventeen Eighty-Nine,* American Opinion, 1968, p. 37. Could Pope Clement XII have been aware of the connection when he issued his 1738 encyclical condemning Masonry?) At a Dublin branch members entertained themselves by "toasting the Devil and drinking to the 'damnation of the Church and its prelates.'" (Cavendish, no by-line, "The Hell-Fire Club," Vol. 23, p. 3150) Sir Francis Dashwood's later version proved so popular that his colleagues in hell-raising included a prime minister, an Admiralty lord and other nobles, politicians and wits, including the "venerable" American Mason, Benjamin Franklin, who visited his "subterranean revels" in 1772. (*Crooks, Con Men & Courtesans,* Castle Books, 1973, pp. 206, 211) From this we can see that when Popes Pius IX and Leo XIII called Masonry "the synagogue of Satan" there was more to their using Saint John's prophetic phrase (Apocalypse 3:9) than dramatic effect.

One volume that has long fascinated high-ranking Masons and from which they construct a false mysticism is a text of Jewish ritual magic called the Cabala. Developed in the Middle Ages, the Cabala put great importance on "words of power"—the Hebrew names for God, angels and devils. Cabalism has been a current in Jewish thought (for example, the Hasidic sect) and in the occult, where some of its philosophy is used as well as the drawing of magic circles to summon spirits. It also features peculiar notions about the origins of evil (God is implicated), which "were perverted by some practitioners of demonic magic into a simple belief that 'God' and 'Satan' were just different names for the same being." (King, p. 95); also see illustration on p. 121) And this we see in Masonic "mysticism." There is the widely cited remark of the nineteenth-century Scottish Rite leader, Albert Pike: "Lucifer is God." Recall, too, that Leo XIII taught us in *Humanum Genus* that "the Masons, not accepting by faith what we know by Divine Revelation, deny that the first Adam fell." American Masonic scholar Manly P. Hall, in a work first presented to Scottish Riters in 1928 and relying heavily on the teachings of the Cabala and ancient occult "mystery

religions," actually goes beyond this, writing that in the fall of Adam is man's salvation. Hall quotes approvingly from a "ritualistic drama" in which the exiled Adam meets again with the serpent and rebukes him for being the cause of his sorrow. This blasphemy ends when the serpent is transformed into a radiant angel. As the now worshipful Adam kneels before him, Satan tells him, "I am the Lord who is against thee and thus accomplishes thy salvation. Thou hast hated me, but through the ages yet to be thou shalt bless me...I have awakened in thy soul the immortality which I myself partake. Follow me, O Adam, for I am the Way, the Life, and the Truth." (*The Secret Teachings of All Ages*, Philosophical Research Society ed., 1977, p. 128)

The Lodge has also played a part in the formation of non-Masonic magical orders. H. P. Blavatsky, the Russian-born founder of the Theosophical Society and editor of *Lucifer* magazine, learned the occult from a Mason. Alice Bailey, who was in turn influenced by Theosophy, started the Lucifer Trust (later changed to the Lucis Trust). In London in 1888, (a year after Blavatsky settled there) three occultist Freemasons established the Isis-Urania Temple of the Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn. (Ellic Howe, *The Magicians of Golden Dawn*, Weiser, 1972, p. 1) Noted members of this secret society of Cabalistic spellcasters included Irish poet W. B. Yeats, Masonic-Rosicrucian author A. E. Waite, and weird fiction writers Arthur Machen and Algernon Blackwood.

More notorious than well-known was a young neophyte initiated in 1898...archsatanist Aleister Crowley. Born into wealth in 1875, Crowley rejected his parents' extreme Protestant beliefs and while still a boy proclaimed himself the Beast of the Apocalypse! As a student at Cambridge Crowley made an effort, as he would later write, "to get into personal communion with the devil." (cited, ibid, p. 193. It has been noted Crowley once tried to kill a professor by sticking a pin in a doll, but another student taking part in the ritual grabbed his hand, causing the pin to go into the doll's leg. The next day the professor *limped* into class.) Two years later he was expelled from the Golden Dawn but in 1912 became the British head of the Ordo Templi Orientis, a group centered on "sex magic." The OTO was a German-based society with irregular ties to 33rd degree Masonry that viewed itself as a modern-day Knights Templar. (see Cavendish, Vol. 18, p. 2397 for OTO membership certificate illustration, complete with Masonic eye in the triangle and two-headed eagle. "Baphomet," another Crowley nickname, was taken from the monstrous idol of the Templars, an image used sometimes today to depict Satan. During World War II an OTO branch started in California and still is in operation.) The less said in detail about Crowley, the better, but his importance to what is going on today should not be underestimated. A prolific writer, his books are still published and faithfully read by serious satanists. Before his death in 1947, he proclaimed that the Christian era had been replaced by a new age in which the old gods have awakened.

(In a letter dated May 29, 1873, to the Bishop of Olinda, Brazil, Pope Pius IX wrote in part as follows regarding Masonry:

> The Satanic spirit of the Sect was particularly evidenced, in the past century, during the course of the Revolutions of France which shook the entire world. Such upheavals proved that the total dissolution of human society could be expected unless the forces of this ultracriminal Sect were crushed.)

Tragedy in Middle America

"I am free...I can kill without remorse, and I feel no regret or sorrow...Evil has taught me good, good has shown me evil." A hellish credo. From the pen of Crowley, perhaps, or LaVey? No, even more frightening in a way, it is taken from a high school English essay. The student who wrote it meant every word. Six months before, he murdered a convenience store clerk as "a sacrifice to Satan" and, after writing his essay, he shot his parents in their sleep because "they had interfered...with my practice of Satanism." Sean Sellers, now 20, sits on Oklahoma's death row for the 1985-86 killings. He became obsessed with Dungeons & Dragons (D&D), an occult role-playing game in which players act out their characters' part, some casting spells. This led to an interest in Satanism and the reading of works like *The Satanic Bible*. When Sean's mother had shown his books to her Conciliar Church clergyman, she was told that the boy was simply "curious" about the subject and was advised to "give her son's books back to him." (Dawkins/Higgins, p. 100) Such faulty spiritual direction is symptomatic of the bankruptcy of the liberal or modernist school of religious thought.

Sadly, there are other potential Sean Sellerses. As many as 70 murders and suicides have been linked to D&D. D&D players, often loners, can be drawn like Sean into occultism when such personal traits as rebellion, low self-esteem, withdrawal from reality and a thirst for power are found. This is also in evidence in the black metal rock groups, such as Black Sabbath, Slayer and Venom, the last of which declared on an album jacket: "The death of you (sic) God we demand. And we spit on the virgin you worship and sit at Lord Satan's left hand." AC/DC's *Highway to Hell* is a popular album of young satanists. A song by another performer, Ozzy Osbourne, is believed to be the catalyst in six teen suicides. Aleister Crowley is not only the subject of an Osbourne song but a recurring name evoked by some big rock groups. His picture appeared on the cover of the Beatles' *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*. Led Zeppelin's Jimmy Page is a follower of the Beast (Crowley) and opened a London bookstore featuring his works. Singers David Bowie and Daryl Hall are other devotees. Another occult inducement is found in the graphically gory "slasher" horror films.

Cast Into Hell Satan

The above section heading comes, of course, from the prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel. It was about a century ago that Pope Leo XIII composed this great prayer and ordered it be said at the end of each Low Mass. He did

so specifically to combat the satanic activities that had even then grown strong.

Today it may be said that the present century has seen the devil as bolder than at any time in the Christian era. (The satanic aspects of modern totalitarians could fill another article.) Our government gives tax-exempt status to the Church of Satan, and other "lawful" diabolists and their books are given a special section in bookstores. The situation is worsened by the widespread suppression of the traditional Latin (Tridentine) Mass, which largely removes a strong spiritual safeguard.

There is thus no sign that Satanism is abating and even reason to think the menace will continue to grow. We must advise readers, then, to take every possible precaution to protect themselves and their families. And more than ever let us draw closer and closer to Christ through His Mass and Sacraments and in prayer†

"The Only Answer" continued from front page
alone is found the One True Church. "Even if Catholics faithful to tradition are reduced to a handful, they are the ones who are the true Church of Jesus Christ." (Saint Athanasius)

And so, far from allowing temptations to despondency and despair to take hold with us, let us rather count the manifold blessings which are ours, the greatest of which is the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and the Blessed Sacrament of the Eucharist. Let us ever be zealous in the living of our God-given Faith in our daily lives. Indeed, let us be ready and willing, by the grace of God, even to sacrifice our very lives, if need be, in testimony to that Faith as did the multitudes of martyrs before us. (Imagine anyone in his right mind putting his life on the line in testimony to ecumenism!)

The Roman Catholic Church is the one entity, the one religious body on this earth established by the Son of God for the sanctification and salvation of mankind. In that Church, and there alone, is found the entirety of the revealed truth and moral law of God. Today that Church exists and functions in *authentic* traditional Catholicism—and there only. And if America and the world are to be saved from catastrophe in this our day, there is essentially no other way and no other means for the accomplishment of this than the Roman Catholic Church (traditional Catholicism). In a word, it is the Roman Catholic Church, the Mystical Body of Christ, upon which depends, today as always throughout the Christian centuries, the salvation of the individual and of the nations. The choice before the world is a clear-cut one: either the Kingship of Christ or the reign of Satan; either the One True Church of Christ or the Cult of Satan. †

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