

From the desk of the Pastor

The False Religion of the Day

As many of you know, I was away last week with two of my close friends - Frs. Stanish and Huber. We had a great time, but as they say, "There's no place like home." It is good to be back. I nearly always go on vacation with other priests and it is usually our custom to read a book together. It is our practice to discuss some book which we did once again. I don't usually make book recommendations, but this last week we read an exceptional book which I would encourage everyone to read. It is called *The Religion of the Day* and it is published by the University of Mary. It is a sequel to the book *From Christendom to Apostolic Mission*.

While both of these books are exceptional, I think this second book is one of the best books I have ever read. I definitely plan to offer a parish class on the main topics of the book, which will be an opportunity for some great discussions about the theological issues of our day. It is also my plan to do use the book for some continued staff formation over the next few weeks.

The premise of the book is enthralling. Theologically we often frame the world as a battle between two camps: the Christian Church and radical atheism (or perhaps the woke mob). We do not think of radical atheism or the woke mob as a *religion*, but rather something that is *anti-religion*. But, according to this book, the woke mob or atheism of the day is in fact - the religion of the day. The reason it can be called a religion is because it actually manifests many of the characteristics of a real faith. The religion of the day, believes with "faith" many myths that are unprovable. These atheists and radical liberals, along with the woke mob accept many ideas which are unprovable. They simply believe ideas that are not true - based on a misinformed "faith." And from these erroneous ideas, they build a certain belief about the world, the future and how we are to live. They have a deep and abiding "faith" in these erroneous ideas which are the basis of their radicalization.

There are hundreds of examples, but perhaps one of the primary examples is the idea that all humans are good. They believe that we are born totally *innocent* but that the *structures* of society corrupt us to become bad people. They believe that if we could just *change*

the structures of society, then humans would *finally be free* and society would reach the culmination to which it has been pressing for the last several hundreds of years. They do not believe in Original Sin but in original innocence. They believe this tenant of faith as beyond the need for proof. Because of this belief, they think that any personal choice is always good. Afterall, if I am perfect and without sin, how could I make a mistake? Therefore, I am good and if my choices cause me harm - it must be because society is oppressing me. Therefore, it is the structures of society that must change - not me.

This means, for example, that any *structure* that might *differentiate* between men and women is evil, because it is a form of repression and misogyny. Therefore, women must be allowed abortion so that we are all equal. The fact that abortion kills a person is unimportant because they have a "faith system" that demands not just equality between men and women but the removal of differences based in human nature. Their press for total equality and the removal of any human differences means that they must allow transgenderism because sexuality must be manipulated to fit into their pre-conceived and totally ignorant "faith" in radical non-differentiation between the sexes.

Further, their notion that we are not fallen, contradicts the most obvious examination of human existence. We know that it is not simply the structures of society that are fallen, but rather our very human nature. Afterall, these structures of necessity must arise from broken humans. There are a million other examples of these errors that huge groups of modern people accept without question.

The book reminds us that only in Christ and the renewal of our nature from him can we have true freedom. The only faith that is true faith is that which comes from God through Jesus Christ. I hope that you will examine this book and the profound grasp that this book has on the false religion of our day. It provides a beautiful insight to the mystery of our holy faith in Christ Jesus through holy Mother Church.

Peace, Fr. David Kime