

August 24, 2018

Archbishop Wilton Gregory
The Roman Catholic
Archdiocese of Atlanta
2401 Lake Park Drive, SE
Smyrna, GA 30080

Dear Archbishop Gregory,

Scandal grips the Church of Jesus Christ. And you are part of the problem.

The darkness of the hour and the urgency of the matter requires candor; and, I doubt anyone in the Chancery will offer you that. We cannot allow past to become prologue. In short, you cannot be permitted to do again what you have done before.

We all know about the disgusting behavior of Cardinal Theodore McCarrick. That his debauchery spanned decades is doubly scandalous! It defies logic to think that he is alone in this depraved behavior or that he has not been enabled by others. It is impossible to conceive that McCarrick was not on anyone's radar. Numerous reports from a variety of sources confirm that it was both known and reported. At least one of your brother bishops says he “never got the letter.”

In your letter of August 9, 2018 you cast yourself as one of Cardinal McCarrick's victims (“I am personally disheartened. . . . I am saddened I am hurt”). At the same time, you attempt to distance yourself from him (“I never personally worked with him in any pastoral context . . . I never knew or suspected the hidden side of [the] man . . .”).

Archbishop, there's not a soul among us who has not been deceived at one time or another, but your representations simply do not ring true. You strain credulity to the breaking point and beyond. Are you trying to convince us of your lack of discernment? Or just that you are oblivious?

And your August 9th letter speaks volume by what it is missing, which only underscores the failure of your leadership. You mention Jesus twice in the opening paragraph and “the People of God” twice as well . . . but never God Himself. Whether by design or by oversight, you don't mention sin; you don't mention homosexual behavior. Zero. Nada. Zilch. You have utterly failed to decry the sin of homosexual conduct that goes to the demonic heart of this matter.¹ You cannot fix what you refuse to acknowledge.

¹ Your brother Bishop Morlino of Madison Wisconsin did not shrink and he did not shirk.

<http://www.madisoncatholicerald.org/bishopsletters/7730-letter-scandal.html> (“There must be no room left, no refuge for sin — either within our own lives, or within the lives of our communities. To be a refuge for sinners (which we should be), the Church must be a place where sinners can turn to be reconciled. In this I speak of all sin. But to be clear, in the specific situations at hand, we are talking about deviant sexual — almost exclusively homosexual — acts by clerics. We're also talking about homosexual propositions and abuses against seminarians and young priests by powerful priests, bishops, and cardinals. We are talking about acts and actions which are not only in violation of the sacred promises made by some, in short, sacrilege, but also are in violation of the natural moral law for all. To call it anything else would be deceitful and would only ignore the problem further.”)

You “directly and specifically” urge Archdiocesan seminarians to notify you if they are “uncomfortable or threatened” and you promise to take “swift and appropriate action – pastoral and legal.” In the first place, are our future priests and bishops being conditioned to be comfy and secure? Why not bold and courageous instead! Rather than being governed by the whim of fleeting emotion, why aren't they being taught to call sin, sin and preach the Gospel of Repentance?

The Church is not the pillar and ground of emotions and feelings; it is the Pillar and Ground of Truth. If a Sodomite seminarian is cavorting with a Sodomite professor, bishop, or each other, they aren't “uncomfortable”, they are *unacceptable!* I suspect Hell is full of priests who were formerly *comfortable*.

Secondly, while your “swift and appropriate” promise hung in the air, your actions betrayed you. You appointed pro-sodomite priest Monsignor Henry Gracz as pastor of The Catholic Shrine of the Immaculate Conception to be a spiritual guide to sexual abuse victims! Words are one thing, Archbishop Gregory, but actions are quite another.

Will you later seek to distance yourself from him, asserting that you “never knew or suspected the hidden side of [the] man.”? And you wonder why your leadership is questioned?

Bishop Morlino sums it up:

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In the wake of the Cardinal McCarrick catastrophe, several prominent Catholics have pointed out that until the sin of homosexuality within the episcopate is resolved, nothing will change. No man with any degree of same-sex attraction should be ordained, much less consecrated as bishop. Those currently ordained must be barred from public ministry.

The 1917 Code of Canon Law (CIC 2359, §2) speaks of priests who violate the Sixth Commandment:

If [clerics] engage in a delict against the Sixth precept of the Decalogue with a minor below the age of sixteen, or engage in adultery, debauchery, bestiality, sodomy, pandering, [or] incest with blood-relatives or affines in the first degree, they are suspended, declared infamous, and are deprived of any office, benefice, dignity, responsibility, if they have such, whatsoever, and in more serious cases, they are to be deposed.

Your entire ecclesiastical career has been just that: a career. I believe the word choice in Holy Scripture is *hireling*. You were climbing the corporate ladder while the People of God were being scattered. Consider: McCarrick was misusing young boys and men; you were the President of the USCCB. McCarrick and others were referring to each other (and themselves) using women's names; you didn't have a clue. You said in your August 9th letter that bishops failed to act; yet you did nothing. You generically call out bishops who were “mishandling allegations of abuse”; yet

you don't name names. Don't you want the sheep to know who the wolves are? You, as President of the USCCB, spoke “in your own name and the name of the Church”; yet you immunized yourself and your brother bishops from pastoral duty when you declared it to be a “parish problem.” You have offered us “assurances in your own name and that of the Church in the United States” before and nothing changed. Now you offer more platitudes and your new plan to form – God help us – a *commission!* By your own admission, your first plan failed. Utterly. Your second plan is nothing more than an instant replay. So, you tell me: are these the actions of a Shepherd . . . or a *hireling?*

And I'll go out on a limb and guess that any such “commission” will prominently feature Mary Ann Glendon.²

You acknowledge that “People are angry, as well they should be.” We are angry at empty assurances. We are angry at vacuous lip-service. We are angry at bishops who have taken vows to Christ and His Church and then dilute her sacraments, pervert her teachings, and betray the laity . . . and Christ Himself. You bet your pectoral cross we're angry.

But more than mad, we have a plan. That plan does not include leaving Christ's Church, though Satan himself and modern-day Judases may wish it did. In the words of St. Peter from John 6, “*Where else can I go?*”

I join my voice, my energy, and my effort to the growing number of clergy and laity who will defend Christ's Church from all enemies both foreign and domestic. You are right in this: we're mad and we should be. Therefore, I demand:

1. A public admission by you that the root of this problem is homosexuality in the priesthood and the episcopacy.
2. A complete and honest public confession from you admitting:
 - whether you have same-sex attraction;
 - whether you have acted on it since your ordination;
 - whether you have knowingly ordained men to the priesthood who have same-sex attraction;
 - whether you have participated in covering up for homosexual priests or retaliating against any individuals who have credibly reported lewd behavior by clerics;
 - for the good of Holy Mother Church, you must now disclose if you have been duplicitous in any way.
3. That any clergy under your authority who are guilty of homosexual behavior be barred from any public ministry and proceedings initiated to dismiss them from the clerical state, including so-called “gay ministries.”
4. That any matter under the jurisdiction of civil authorities be shared with them.
5. That an independent reporting system be established for any victims of sexual molestation

² Glendon is a Harvard Law School professor, was Ambassador to the Holy See who spent years, side-by-side with her daughter and her daughter's co-fornicator (and father of her grandson) Fr. Thomas Williams. In addition Ms. Glendon, aggressively and ruthlessly engaged in character assassinating people who were desperately trying to blow the whistle on the rapist Marcial Maciel and the Legion of Christ.

- or harassment or who have been subject to any sexual advance by a member of the clergy.
6. A "whistle-blower" safety mechanism so that faithful clergy can report lewd and lascivious behavior without fear of reprisal.
 7. Any priest who suffered such reprisal must be publicly restored and exonerated.
 8. A public apology on your part for participating either actively by abusing these men or passively by allowing this abuse to happen by remaining silent in the face of this horror.
 9. Your resignation if you were a participant in any negligence of office in these matters.
 10. That all homosexual men (or sympathizers) who are recruitment or vocations directors, seminary formators or rectors be dismissed immediately.

The abuse perpetrated by men such as McCarrick has caused unconscionable spiritual, financial and emotional damage, and we laity will no longer allow this to continue. The truth is that too many bishops – perhaps you – knew about this and did nothing.

We demand accountability. We also vote with our pocketbooks. That noise you hear reverberating throughout the Archdiocese is the sound of wallets – slamming shut. Unless and until these demands are met, our funding of your campaigns stops. Now.

Instead, the money I would have given to the diocese will go to honorable and trustworthy institutions and apostolates within the Church. No longer will we supply enormous sums of money for attorneys to clean up after you and your brother bishops' failings. No longer will we finance settlements to victims of clerical homosexual predation and associated cover-ups. We will no longer be passive participants in your sins and failure to lead.

For the Crown Rights of King Jesus,



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