

## ***MAY THE HOUSE OF GOD BE WISELY RULED BY THE WISE***

Too much of today's traditionalist "Catholicism" is dominated by improperly and oftentimes erroneously documented opinion and instruction and hear-say Catholicism. Most of such instruction is given credibility and acceptability simply because of the amount of noise that is generated in its defense: lots of noise, lots of argument, lots of debate, lots of propaganda, lots of punctuated name-calling, lots of disruption of the peace and serenity of good people whose desire it is to be left alone for prayer. Our commitment must be to a life of true piety and true prayer and true love – not to argument and never-ending polemical fighting! The full thrust of such information is not aimed at the salvation of souls, even though use of prestigious names gives the impression that its purpose is genuine and guided by true scholarship. Rather, the atmosphere created by such erroneous opinions of individuals, individuals who in most cases lack any theological credentials, can be seen to be false, tyrannical, arrogant, arbitrary, overbearing, and full of prohibitions. Instead of giving assistance to a suffering soul, such an approach withholds the channels of salvation and assistance. In this way of living, God Almighty is no more than a heartless tyrant who carries a whip in his hands at all times, always ready to strike and beat down, rather than to lift up and help.

This approach to the living of the spiritual life has produced a very defective and privately interpreted kind of "Catholicism". We do not here suggest that the answer lies in the modernist, liberal "Catholic" ideal of handing out salvation willy-nilly to almost everybody. At the same time, the answer does not lie in the "traditionalist", Jansenistic ideal of withholding salvation willy-nilly from almost everybody! Neither one of these propositions is even borderline Truth. The world needs Truth. Indeed, the Catholic Church needs Truth, and it is up to those who have been taught the Truth, and who have a God-given realization of the value of TRUTH, to maintain it. By means of strong prayer and a willingness to offer sacrifice to an offended God, we must put a stop to the encroachments of those whose intentions are difficult to fathom. When good willed faithful people are subjected to needlessly fearsome directives and embarrassing situations, it should be plain to see that there is something wrong with the program. When honest minded people are driven away by oppressive and impossible advice or counsel, it should be plain to see that there is something wrong with the method. Good and sincere souls, honestly seeking ways to achieve salvation and union with God, are especially sensitive to the impropriety of such an atmosphere. Reckless ordinances are quite inappropriate. *(Turn to pages 11 & 12)*