

Fr. Perozich comments —

OFFERING SACRIFICE TO FALSE gods.

Deacon Russell's reflection below pricks my conscience. Whenever I sin in thought, word, deed, I am offering incense to the false gods.

The Holy Spirit took up residence in me in baptism to direct my mind to God, my heart to His desires, and my will toward ultimate happiness with God.

When I sin, I build in my soul altars to false gods. I offer to them sacrifices of incense on altars of sin that I erect in me in the presence of the God who lives in me. I am ashamed of my sins and what I have thought, said or done.

The Holy Spirit helps me tear down these altars with His forgiveness, so that He can be the source of grace, and have that grace be directed by Jesus.

Never again do I want to offer incense to false gods or to be influenced by others to do so in the Catholic Church.

In the Old Testament, God commanded our elder brothers and sisters in the faith, the Jewish people, to offer sacrifice only in the temple for Adoration, Contrition, Thanksgiving, and Supplication (ACTS).

No one was to come to the temple empty handed, especially on major feasts. Daily, monthly, and yearly sacrifices were to be offered only on the one altar once God established this place, which came to be in Jerusalem.

Ritual purity was required, particularly of the priests with washing, changing into liturgical garments. The objects to be sacrificed such as first fruits and unblemished animals, pure incense were to be offered. The consuming of the meal by the priests and their families had to be done in the special chambers of the temple to complete the sacrifice, and renew the covenant

whereby man eats a meal with God: the burnt offering mixed with incense rising to the Lord, His chosen ministers consuming their part, thus sealing and renewing covenants.

Against the divine prohibition, after entering the promised land, the Jewish people continued to offer sacrifice on the mountains to false gods of the harvest, Baal and Ashteroth, to the gods of the neighbors Moloch, Bel, Chemosh, Dagon, Marduk, Milcom. Raisin cakes were made for Ashera, the queen of heaven. Children were sacrificed to Moloch. People brought food sacrifices and burned incense to the false gods.

Even Solomon who built the temple worshiped in the other temples he built for his pagan wives. Ahaz offered sacrifice to the gods of the Assyrians in Damascus and built altars to them in the temple of God Jerusalem, substituting false sacrifice for true worship.

After the return from Babylon, men were commanded to cover over the mark of circumcision, to eat pork, to offer incense. The book of Maccabees shows the courage of resistance to death of the mother and her 7 sons, while other mothers were killed with their circumcised baby boys hung around their neck.

The early Christians had only to offer, or to appear to offer, incense to the Roman gods in order to keep their power, possessions, their civil office, their freedom or their lives. Some resisted to their death. We know them as our Saints. The ones who succumbed to pressure are in the dustbin of history.

When I was called into Bishop Robert McElroy's office in the presence of his vicar Monsignor Callahan on November 9, 2016, I was told my teachings were not Catholic, that I was anti Muslim and anti gay.

From 1996-2003 I guided men with same sex attraction to chastity through Courage, and assisted families with active homosexual/homosexual activist (AH/HA) members to maintain their integrity in the family relationships to the degree that they

could, so that they would not fall themselves to offering incense to the gods of unchastity.

A Mass was offered by two bishops and 16 priests in San Diego in God's temple, with those present who have erected altars in their souls to the gods of LGBTQIA. Messengers are coming from Rome in the person of Fr. James Martin, SJ and Fr. Thomas Rosica with incense to these gods. Other bishops and priests offer the same incense, and scorn us who refuse to do so.

*God is clear in His creation and His teaching in the Bible. The 1992 Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches the truth of sexuality. At the same time it notes that chastity is a continuing project for each of us, never being a finished acquired state, requiring ongoing nurturing. The CCC teaches, "**2342** Self-mastery is a long and exacting work. One can never consider it acquired once and for all.*

I cannot do anything myself without the grace of God given in the Sacraments.

In the Sacrament of Penance, then in morning prayer and night prayer, I ask the Holy Spirit tear down the false altars I have erected in my soul, so that true sacrifice of myself may be offered to God, that I may be a pure incense united to Jesus to rise to God in Adoration, Contrition, Thanksgiving, and Supplication, ACTS, perfect acts of sacrifice to God.

‘SEXUALITIES’: THE NEW INCENSE TO CAESAR



Samuel Kubani/AFP



by **Jim Russell** • ChurchMilitant.com • February 12, 2019

Sexuality is ordered to the conjugal love of man and woman

In the ancient days of the Church, early Christians had to make a potentially life-altering decision: Do I participate in the idolatry of Caesar in Rome by burning incense to him as though he were divine?

In its time, this was the true measure of political correctness and groupthink. To stay in the good graces of Roman culture, you acquiesced and you lived. If you didn't, you would be imprisoned and likely martyred, eventually.

I see this as an apt comparison to the contemporary travesty of "sexual orientation" ideology. It, too, is a form of idolatry that is even more insidiously subtle than merely sending up smoke to a false god. The ideology that claims there is not just one thing

properly defined as "sexuality" but instead there is an ever-growing number of all-equally-good and normal "sexualities" is not just a "big lie" but is a monumental falsehood.

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Perhaps even many Catholics haven't thought of the ideologies of orientation and gender in this way — we Catholics are more apt to grapple with gender ideology than we are orientation ideology, largely because there is nothing ambiguous about the error of gender ideology. But we would never have gotten to the point of a cultural acceptance that men can "really" be women, and vice versa, if we had not first folded under the false illusion that it's somehow normal for men to sexually desire other men and for women to sexually desire other women.

In past conversations with otherwise well-meaning Catholics, I've been challenged on my insistence that there is only "sexuality" — not "sexualities." The claim from Catholics who get this point wrong is that, because a group of people exists who do indeed have same-sex attraction, that group comprises its own distinctive "sexuality" — homosexuality; sounds reasonable, right?

Wrong, it is the "error in the beginning" from which a gazillion other errors arise. The whole point of the "taxonomy" of "LGBTQIA++" is that every letter in that acronym counts as something normal and therefore something to be affirmed and celebrated — and politically and socially protected.

For the secular believer in orientation ideology, the slipperiest slope emerges from that single act of accepting what could be called the "sexual relativism" at work in classifying people according to their sexual attractions and feelings. Effectively, belief in "sexualities" buries the truth that God has

given human nature only one thing properly defined as "sexuality."

Instead of acknowledging the inherent logic, reason and morality of God's plan for human sexuality, so many people — including a too-large swath of self-identifying Catholics — are willing to just slide along and down the idolatrous slope that moves us deeper into madness and chaos.

Is there a simple antidote for digging out the root of the cultural rot that is sending so many closer to eternal pain and perdition? Can anything keep us from simply falling further into the lazy, non-confrontational, false "compassion" that claims that we must accept the big lie that all the following "sexualities" are both normal and real?

I'm not making up this list — each term is now part of the slimy alphabet soup we're swimming in: abrosexual, androgynosexual, androsexual, aromantic, asexual, biromantic, bisexual, ceterosexual, cisgender, demisexual, demiromantic, finsexual, gay, gynosexual, grey-romantic, heteroromantic, homoromantic, lesbian, omnisexual, pansexual, panromantic, pomosexual, polysexual, queer, questioning, straight, skoliosexual, sapiosexual and transgender.

That, friends, is a whole lot of black smoke being sent up to Caesar. Even the terms "straight" and "heterosexual" are part of the false ideology of "sexualities." I am decidedly not a "cisgender heterosexual" assigned as "male" at birth. All that is vain idolatry. So what am I? I am a man — simple as that.

Just as simple is the antidote for this evil, found in a single sentence in the Catechism of the Catholic Church. The big truth is found in a small phrase, a phrase that every Catholic can and should commit to memory: "Sexuality is ordered to the conjugal love of man and woman" (CCC 2360).

Got that? Good, now memorize it. And then go live it.

To penetrate the deadly shroud of error surrounding us, all we have to do is stand fast with these basic truths:

1. There is only one "sexuality," and it is ordered toward the marital love of one man and one woman — period.
2. There are only two "sexual identities" — man and woman — period.

Anything else that undermines these two principles is bound up in the swirling smoke sent up to the false god of "sexualities." We may have to live in its fog, but we don't have to breathe it in.

So-called 'hate-speech' laws in some countries are like the echoes of old Rome, a re-emerging thought police designed to silence you and strengthen the myths of orientation and gender.

But be warned, if you memorize CCC 2360, if you embrace the simple truth and confront the big lie, you will likely suffer for it in the public square and even in your own parish, your own family and your own home.

The smoke of Caesar is intoxicating and, for many, soothing. It draws us away from harm, from conflict, from risk. It's an opiate that dulls us and leaves us willing to question reality itself. Like second-hand cigarette smoke, it doesn't take much to foul the air around us.

You'll see its effect in your friends and maybe your siblings or other close relatives. Those under its influence will insist that you are the problem, that you are the hater, the bigot. Threats may be made to your job, even your freedom. Our neighbors to the north in Canada know this all too well — so-called "hate-speech" laws in some countries are like the echoes of old Rome, a re-emerging thought police designed to silence you and strengthen the myths of orientation and gender.

You face the same question faced by the earliest Christians, in fact — do you value your life more than God's truth? If the answer is "yes," then enjoy the aroma of that dream-inducing incense while you can, safe in the cocoon of error created by an idolatry run amok.

If the answer is "no," it will cost you, some way, somehow. But in the end, your fidelity will rise like incense to the one, true,

living God, and the sound of "well done, good and faithful servant" will fall upon your ears as you forever behold Him face to face.