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Inbox

Identity redacted

Tue, Jun 2, 10:07 AM (2 days ago)

to me

Hi Ted,
I hope you and yours are well.

Can you tell me why the Knights of Columbus are allowing President Trump to visit the John Paul II shrine in DC?

From the Washington Post:

"Pope St. John Paul II was an ardent foe of racism. In his last visit to the United States the saint begged our nation to eradicate racism from its heart. One cannot imagine a worse insult to John Paul II's memory than to hold a Trump re-election event at the saint's shrine,"



Theodore Seeber <seebert42@gmail.com>

Tue, Jun 2, 10:53 AM (2 days ago)

I'm not doing well at all. Between still working for Intel, homeschooling Christopher, events in the news and the Knights, something has to give.

So I'll be stepping down as Grand Knight as of the end of the Fraternal Year.

As to the Washington Post Story, looks like fake news to me. At least, the visit is NOT listed on the official events list for the shrine at:

<https://www.jp2shrine.org/jps/en/events/index.html> so it is likely NOT any more of a campaign event than Trump standing on the sidewalk in front of the Episcopalian Cathedral holding a Bible and promising that church arson would be punished. I found it interesting that the female Episcopalian Bishop denounced Trump for being against arson- I guess Episcopalians are now pro-arson.

The shrine itself is a museum, anybody can visit. It's open to the public and I don't see why we'd specifically bar anybody from visiting. In fact, if we believe in the doctrine that people can be converted by ideas, I'd say that would be a great place for Trump to visit right now- and maybe Black Lives Matter folks.

It isn't like the Knights often involve themselves in partisan politics- in fact, despite being officially a pro-life organization, you should see the paperwork involved in removing a man who has paid for an abortion or gotten a divorce from the order, even when he causes a scandal in the council! Takes a letter from the pastor or chaplain and the bishop to do so. My brother sadly had to deal with a member who went insane and had to be removed, he had to turn in the divorce decree, letters from three psychologists,

plus clerical support.

I have a tendency to disagree with that particular Democratic Propaganda tabloid on a lot of issues, so I'm not surprised they are anti-Knight, since they support Planned Parenthood and the genocide of African Americans in the womb.

The Knights have been integrated since 1939 officially, though it took Supreme in 1963 to bring down the hammer on one council. And of course, we famously desegregated the Roosevelt Hotel in New Orleans in 1964 when the Supreme Knight almost pulled the convention over them not renting a room to two brothers from Detroit.

Ted Seeber

Identity redacted

Tue, Jun 2, 12:02 PM (2 days ago)

to me

Sorry to hear you are not doing well.
Since there is also video of the visit, I don't believe it to be fake news.



Theodore Seeber <seebert42@gmail.com>

Tue, Jun 2, 12:14 PM (2 days ago)

I had to go searching. I find the identity politics of today's America to be highly disturbing- and this video of President Trump honoring John Paul II with a wreath I don't find to be racist in the slightest.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Amcj_WvXFqg

So in this act, what did you find to be racist?

I think far too often the word racist is used for "somebody I don't like". Real racism- the real ugly racism like four cops of racial diversity ignoring a heart attack because their suspect is assumed to be drunk and a dangerous drunk driver- I don't see that coming from President Trump, do you? And certainly NOT in honoring St. John Paul II on his 100th birthday.

Ted

Attachments area

Preview YouTube video Pres. Trump visits Saint John Paul II National Shrine | ABC News



Theodore Seeber <seebert42@gmail.com>

Tue, Jun 2, 4:55 PM (2 days ago)

Finally found the full story. President Trump was there to sign an executive order on international Religious Liberty. Washington Post and Archbishop Gregory decided instead to call this treaty signing racist. From Catholic Vote's press release:

"The fact that the President of the United States chose the shrine of Saint John Paul II to announce a new Executive Order protecting religious minorities should have been celebrated by all those who love the Church, religious freedom, and the courageous example of St. John Paul II.

"It is regrettable that the Archbishop of Washington chose this occasion to engage in a partisan attack on the President, especially when the country is in desperate need of healing and unity. Millions of Catholics in the United States, including many within the Archbishop's own flock, are grateful for today's Executive Order. The protection of religious minorities is a bipartisan issue that has enjoyed unanimous support in Congress as well as the Trump and Obama administrations. Today's unfortunate partisan attack needlessly politicizes this important issue, and distracts from the plight of vulnerable religious minorities around the world."

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Tue, Jun 2, 8:09 PM (2 days ago)

to me

I simply fail to see how a Catholic can support this un-Christian president. That is all.



Theodore Seeber <seebert42@gmail.com>

Tue, Jun 2, 9:05 PM (2 days ago)

I do not see him as an unchristian president. I see him as a fellow sinner and human being. I am not perfect, Trump is not perfect. In fact, he is living up to my expectations as being worse than Obama, who was worse than Bush, who was worse than Clinton, who was worse than Bush the elder, who was worse than Reagan, who was worse than Carter, who was worse than Ford.

Before that was Nixon, who was a master statesman in comparison to all who came after.

But I hold to three orthodox Catholic dogmas that I realize Jesuits hate.

1. I believe conversion is possible for even the worst human beings
2. I believe the enemy of my enemy is someone I should try to convert and pray for
3. I believe even the worst sinner, deserves my charity and forgiveness.

I do realize that despite all the high sounding talk of mercy, many in the hierarchy no longer support civilization or order, let alone forgiveness and conversion. But I would have to be a hypocrite to say that anybody is unforgivable.

Because Trump is not the worst person in the world. I know that because I am the worst person in the world.

After all, I support such evil concepts as not burning down buildings for a sin that happened a thousand miles away. Of not punishing healthy people and taking away their means of sustenance to protect the sick. Of insisting that police officers should have the same medical training as paramedics. And that planned parenthood should not be allowed to sterilize and terminate people based on irrational concepts of skin color.

I am a thousand times worse than Trump because I actually consider the entire concept of race and ethnicity to have become outdated 1,977 years ago when one man died for our sin.

No, being perfect is not what makes a Christian. Social justice, as good as it is, is not what makes a Christian. Sacrifice and dying for your fellow man is what makes you a Christian.

And by that measure, during these last three years, Trump is a better man than I can ever hope to be.

So have fun with the Pharisees shouting "Crucify Him!"- but it will never bring about the world you want to harbor such hate.

Ted