

December 23, 2023

Friend,

Praise be Jesus, Mary, and St. Joseph now and forever. I invite you to review the information again (or read it for the first time) at <https://jmjsite.com/ec.pdf>.

Yes, I wrote that Pope Leo XIII teaches infallibly that it is a matter of Catholic faith that, “The sun is in the heavens and moves swiftly around the earth, and that the earth is far from the heavens and stands immobile in the center of the universe.” However, as far as I know, Pope Leo XIII did not write that exact sentence in any papal document.

Nevertheless, the following is the reasoning behind why I believe that Pope Leo XIII teaches infallibly that it is a matter of Catholic faith that “The sun is in the heavens and moves swiftly around the earth, and that the earth is far from the heavens and stands immobile in the center of the universe.”

1st truth: Remember the dogmatic definitions of the Catholic Church as explained at the first Vatican Council, 1870:

“All those things are to be believed by divine and Catholic faith which are contained in the written Word of God or in Tradition, and which are proposed by the Church, either in solemn judgment or in its ordinary and universal teaching office, as divinely revealed truths which must be believed.”

2nd truth: Pope Pius XII, in paragraph 20 of *Humani Generis* – August 12, 1950, explained another important Catholic doctrine:

“Nor must it be thought that what is expounded in Encyclical Letters does not of itself DEMAND CONSENT, since in writing such Letters the Popes do not exercise the supreme power of their Teaching Authority. For these matters are taught with the ordinary teaching authority, of which it is true to say: ‘He who heareth you, heareth me...’”

3rd truth: Pope Leo XIII wrote:

“The teachings of the popes, as found in their Encyclical Letters, can by no means be considered as expressing mere opinions which anyone is free to hold or to reject at will.”

4th truth: Pope Leo XIII teaches infallibly in the encyclical, *Providentissimus Deus*:

“That such was the purpose of God in giving the Scripture **The Holy Fathers**, We say, are of supreme authority, whenever they all interpret in one and the same manner any text of the Bible, as pertaining to the doctrine of faith or morals; for their unanimity clearly evinces that such interpretation has come down from the Apostles as a **matter of Catholic faith**.”

5th truth: From the First Lateran Council:

“If anyone does NOT profess, in accordance with the Holy Fathers, properly and truthfully ALL that has been handed down and taught publicly to the Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church of God, both by the same Holy Fathers and by approved universal Councils, to the LAST detail in word and intention: LET HIM BE ANATHEMA.”

6th truth: The approved universal Council, Vatican Council in 1869 – 1870 under Pope Pius IX session III on the Dogmatic Constitution concerning the Catholic Faith – provided Her **infallible** doctrine on the interpretation of Sacred Scripture as follows, (as found in DZ 1788):

“But, since the rules which the holy Synod of Trent salutarily decreed concerning the interpretation of Divine Scripture in order to restrain impetuous minds, are wrongly explained by certain men, We, renewing the same decree, declare this to be its intention: that, in matters of faith and morals pertaining to the instruction of Christian Doctrine, that must be considered as a true sense of Sacred Scripture which Holy Mother Church has held and holds, whose office it is to judge concerning the true understanding and interpretation of the Sacred Scriptures; and, for

that reason, no one is permitted to interpret Sacred Scripture itself contrary to this sense, or even contrary to the **unanimous agreement of the Fathers.**”

7th truth: Saint Robert Bellarmine, one of the most learned Doctors of the Church, teaches:

“You would find that **all** [The **Holy Fathers**] agree in explaining literally (ad litteram) that, THE SUN is in the heavens and MOVES SWIFTLY AROUND THE EARTH, and that the earth is far from the heavens and stands immobile in the center of the universe. Now consider whether in all prudence the Church could encourage giving to Scripture a sense CONTRARY to the holy Fathers and **ALL** the Latin AND Greek commentators. **Nor may it be answered that this is NOT a matter of faith**, for if it is not a matter of faith from the point of view of the subject matter, *it is on the part of the ones who have spoken.*”

In summary:

POINT ONE: Pope Leo XIII taught infallibly the Catholic doctrine that whenever all of the **Holy Fathers** are unanimous in their teaching concerning any text of the Bible, such interpretation has come down from the Apostles as a **matter of Catholic faith**.

POINT TWO: The First Lateran Council is clear in teaching infallibly that everyone must profess and believe as a **matter of Catholic faith** ALL that has been handed down and taught publicly to the Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church of God, by the same **Holy Fathers**.

POINT THREE: The Vatican Council in 1869 – 1870 taught infallibly the Catholic doctrine that: “The holy Synod of Trent salutarily decreed ... no one is permitted to interpret Sacred Scripture itself contrary to this sense, which Holy Mother Church has held and holds, or even contrary to the **unanimous agreement of the Fathers.**”

POINT FOUR: The **unanimous agreement of the Fathers** is that “THE SUN is in the heavens and MOVES SWIFTLY AROUND THE EARTH, and that the earth is far from the heavens and stands immobile in the center of the universe.”

POINT FIVE: “And since **truth never contradicts truth**, we declare every assertion contrary to the truth of illuminated faith to be altogether false; and, that it may not be permitted to dogmatize otherwise, we strictly forbid it, and we declare that all who adhere to errors of this kind are to be shunned and to be punished as detestable and abominable infidels who disseminate most damnable **heresies** and who weaken the Catholic faith.” [From: Lateran Council V 1512-1517 Pope Saint Leo X - from the Bull “*Apostolici Regiminis*” (Session VIII), Dec. 19, 1513] (DZ 738)

Let me explain something else. In correspondence with another gentleman, he provided me with the following:

Malvenda, a theologian and advisor to the cardinal, employed in revising the Dominican Breviary, confirms that all the Church fathers taught the holy sacrifice, without qualification, will cease in the end. “The Holy Fathers who have written upon the subject of Antichrist, and of these prophecies of Daniel, without a single exception, as far as I know, — and they are the Fathers both of the East and of the West, the Greek and the Latin Church—all of them unanimously, — say that in the latter end of the world, during the reign of Antichrist, the holy sacrifice of the altar will cease.” (de Antichristo], lib. viii.)

Take notice that Malvenda wrote that the Holy Fathers, without a single exception, both of the East and the West, the Greek and the Latin Church – all of them unanimously, say that in the latter end of the world, during the reign of Antichrist, the holy sacrifice of the altar will cease.

Consequently, we have the UNANIMOUS teachings of the Holy Fathers agreeing that during the reign of Antichrist, the holy sacrifice of the altar will cease.

8th truth: Malvenda simply reminds us of a truth that all the Holy Fathers are unanimous in teaching. Like the way that Saint Robert Bellarmine reminded us of a truth that all the Holy Fathers are unanimous in teaching.

9th truth: Pope Leo XIII taught infallibly the Catholic doctrine that whenever all of the **Holy Fathers** are unanimous in their teaching concerning any text of the Bible, such interpretation has come down from the Apostles as a **matter of Catholic faith**.

10th truth: whatever is a **matter of Catholic faith**, is also an infallible teaching of the Catholic Church.

11th truth: therefore, we can truthfully state that Pope Leo XIII teaches infallibly that, “It is a matter of Catholic faith that in the latter end of the world, during the reign of Antichrist, the holy sacrifice of the altar will cease.” (However, as far as I know, Pope Leo XIII did not write that exact sentence in any papal document.)

Let Us Go through Another Example

As I am writing to you now, I do not clearly recall that Saint Alphonsus Maria Liguori ever states distinctly in his writings that all of the Holy Fathers are unanimous in teaching that sacred Scripture proves God gives sufficient grace to every man to save his immortal soul. Saint Alphonsus Maria teaches this truth, but I do not know if he distinctly wrote that this truth is the unanimous teaching of all the Holy Fathers.

However, for the sake of explanation to have a better understanding of the principle I am explaining, let us just assume that somewhere in his writings, Saint Alphonsus Maria did state something to the effect that, “All of the Holy Fathers are unanimous in teaching that sacred Scripture proves God gives sufficient grace to every man to save his immortal soul.” Personally, I would consider such a statement from such a qualified authority as Saint Alphonsus Maria Liguori to be a very reliable source – especially if it is found in his Moral Theology, which the Pope declared to be free from all error.

Part one of this example: Saint Alphonsus Maria Liguori, a highly qualified authority, wrote, “All of the Holy Fathers are unanimous in teaching that sacred Scripture proves God gives sufficient grace to every man to save his immortal soul.”

Part two of this example: Pope Leo XIII clearly used his ORDINARY teaching authority in explaining that whenever all of the **Holy Fathers** are unanimous in their teaching concerning any text of the Bible, such interpretation has come down from the Apostles as a **matter of Catholic faith**.

Part three of this example: Therefore, if Saint Alphonsus Maria actually made the statement we are using (and assuming) for this example, then we could truthfully state that Pope Leo XIII would teach infallibly that, “All of the Holy Fathers are unanimous in teaching that sacred Scripture proves God gives sufficient grace to every man to save his immortal soul.” (However, as far as I know, Pope Leo XIII did not write that exact sentence in any papal document.)

CONCLUSION

Always remember the Catholic doctrine. “Whenever all of the **Holy Fathers** are unanimous in their teaching concerning any text of the Bible, such interpretation has come down from the Apostles as a **matter of Catholic faith**.” The Pope assigned Saint Robert Bellarmine to provide the teaching of the Catholic Church concerning the geocentric versus heliocentric discussion during the time of Galileo. This great Saint and Doctor of the Catholic Church clearly explained the Catholic doctrine on this **matter of Catholic faith**. Namely, that it is the unanimous teaching of all the Holy Fathers in their interpretation of sacred Scripture that: “THE SUN is in the heavens and MOVES SWIFTLY AROUND THE EARTH, and that the earth is far from the heavens and stands immobile in the center of the universe.”

{1} Do you agree that everyone must believe it is of Divine and Catholic faith, as found in the written word of God, and taught by tradition as explained by the *unanimous agreement of the Holy Fathers* that **THE SUN is in the heavens and MOVES SWIFTLY AROUND THE EARTH and that the earth is far from the heavens and stands immobile in the center of the universe?**

In Jesus, Mary, and Saint Joseph,

Patrick Henry
<https://jmjsite.com>