



Catholics United for the Faith

To Support, Defend and Advance the Efforts of the Teaching Church

PEGGY DUEMLING TO DISCUSS MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY NOV. 16

St. Gregory VII Chapter
October/November, 2008

Since 2001, PEGGY DUEMLING has been the Principal, and Dean of Catholic Formation, at Aquinas Academy in Menomonee Falls. Prior to that, Peggy spent ten years as a member of the Missionaries of Charity, which she joined in 1988. She had to give up her work with the Missionaries because of a problem with asthma in 1998, the same year she joined the staff at Aquinas Academy. During her ten years with the Missionaries, Peggy served in "Mission Houses" in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Phoenix, Brooklyn, Washington, D.C., South Bronx and Tijuana. She helped patients with AIDS, cancer and Tuberculosis. She also worked with unwed mothers and their children, prostitutes, prisoners at San Quentin, teens in gangs, and the elderly.

Peggy holds a BS Degree in political science from UW-Green Bay and La Crosse. During that time, she spent two years in the Army ROTC Training Program. She also holds an MS Degree in early childhood education and is a Certified Catechist in the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C. **Please come and hear Peggy discuss the,**

"SPIRITUALITY OF THE MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY"

WHERE: BLESSED SACRAMENT CHURCH HALL

South 41st St. and Oklahoma Avenue

(Enter from S. 40th St.; use door at SE corner of Church)

WHEN: Sunday, November 16

TIME: 2:00 p.m. - Meeting

1:45 p.m. - Rosary

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE YEAR 2008

The St. Gregory VII Chapter of CUF needs about \$12 per contributing member to meet its expenses for one year. CUF International, for those who are interested, asks for a contribution of \$40 per year, which includes a subscription to the **Lay Witness** magazine. If you choose to add a contribution to CUF International, Ann Taucher will forward that amount to the International office so you will receive your **Lay Witness** magazine. Those who contribute at least \$12 to the Chapter will receive this newsletter by first class mail (rather than by the Bulk Mail Service) and can buy books at significant discount at all our meetings. To receive this Newsletter by third class mail, **a contribution is not necessary**. However, unless you return the form, you might not receive every mailing. With printing and mailing costs continuing to go up, we are finding it increasingly difficult to mail this Newsletter to those who are unable to provide us with at least a few dollars to help defray costs. If you want to make sure you continue to receive this Newsletter, please fill out the form below and return to: ANN TAUCHER, P.O. BOX 370302, MILWAUKEE, WI 53237-0302

In This Issue

Page

**1 Peggy Duemling to speak
about "Missionaries of
Charity"**

**2 Book of the Month:
"Reasons to Believe"**

**2 "Theology of the Body"
on November 21**

2 How to contact CUF

3 Blaise Pascal's Wager

Name: _____ Date: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Enclosed: \$ _____ Chapter contribution (\$12, \$50, \$100, other) e-mail: _____

\$ _____ International contribution (\$40, \$50, \$100, other) _____ Please send the newsletter by e-mail.

_____ Please send the newsletter through the
postal service.

Total: \$ _____ (Make checks payable to: "St. Gregory VII - CUF")

DIANE SCHLOSSER TO PRESENT "THEOLOGY OF THE BODY" NOVEMBER 21

Diane Schlosser is on the Milwaukee Archdiocesan speakers' list where she presents talks to engaged couples at Pre-Cana Seminars. She also has given talks on social and cultural issues in Milwaukee, Chicago, and the Twin Cities. Her presentation on the "Theology of the Body" will be held at **Aquinas Academy**, N72 W15935 Good Hope Road in Menomonee Falls, at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, November 21. For more information call 262-502-1540 or go to www.aquinasacademy.com

CHECK WITH WISN FOR CANCELLATION IN CASE OF BAD WEATHER

To find out whether or not a CUF meeting has been cancelled due to snow or bad weather, go to Channel 12 TV and/or www.wisn.com. A decision to cancel a meeting would be made, most likely, on the morning of the meeting.

FR. HERBERT SCHUBERT TO RECEIVE CHAPTER'S 2009 MSGR. POPEK AWARD

It is with great pleasure that the St. Gregory VII Chapter's Board of Directors announces that the recipient of the **Twenty-first Annual Msgr. Alphonse S. Popek Award** will be **Rev. Herbert B. Schubert**, a priest of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. Sincere congratulations are extended to Fr. Schubert from the Board and the Chapter membership, along with gratitude for his leadership of the laity, zeal for the priesthood, and loyalty to the Church. The dinner will be held in October of 2009, and registration flyers will be mailed during the summer.

CATHOLICS UNITED FOR THE FAITH CELEBRATED 40 YEARS IN OCTOBER

Congratulations are in order for the International Office of **Catholics United for the Faith** as this world-wide apostolate of Catholic laity celebrates its 40th anniversary. CUF was founded in New Rochelle, NY, in September of 1968 by Catholic convert, H. Lyman Stebbins. It was a response to the attacks on *Humanae Vitae* in 1968, and to the call of Vatican II for the laity to become more active in the Church. Our local St. Gregory VII Chapter was founded in 1978 by a few lay people and Msgr. Popek. A 40th anniversary conference was held in Pittsburg, PA, the weekend of October 11 and 12. Congratulations have been received in the CUF Office from many, including, Bishop Bruskewitz, Bishop Martino, Cardinal Francis George, Bishop Doran, Bishop Carlson, Archbishop Myers, Bishop Olmsted, and others. Dr. Timothy O'Donnell, president of Christendom College, wrote, "For over 40 years, Catholics United for the Faith has stood in the breach proudly defending the truth of our holy Catholic faith in fidelity to the Holy Father and the Magisterium. In the dark days of chaos following the Second Vatican Council, Catholics United for the Faith served as a beacon of light. When the history of the late 20th century is written, no doubt Catholics United for the Faith will be recognized to have played a key role in helping preserve the faith and pass on the torch of fidelity to a new generation."



St. Gregory VII Chapter Officers and Board Members

President: Dr. A.P. Szews
Vice-President: Dirk Wichgers
Secretary: Jerry Schmutte
Treasurer: Ann Taucher

Karol Nowak
Dick Pfeiffer
Larry Schmidt
Margo Szews
Mary Wdowczyk
Chuck Wichgers
Greg Wolak

Spiritual Advisor

Rev. James Kubicki, S.J.

Newsletter Editor

Margo Szews
Phone: 414-321-9377
Email: CUFMIL@wi.rr.com
Website: www.cufmilwaukee.org

Book of the Month: "Reasons to Believe"

Author: Scott Hahn

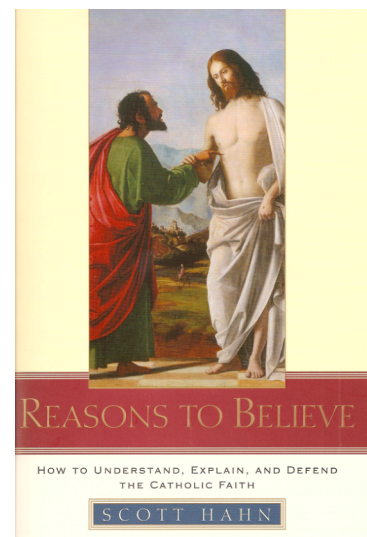
Publisher: Doubleday, 2007

"Often we are asked to give an account of the hope that is in us, to explain our Catholic faith. In *Reasons to Believe*, Scott Hahn offers that explanation in a clear, cogent, and compelling manner, by answering the most frequently raised questions about aspects of Church teaching.

It is a must-read for Catholics who want to be able to explain the faith they hold and cherish. This work should be of immense value."

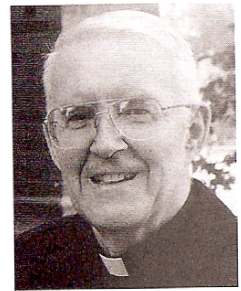
Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl
(Archdiocese of Washington, D.C.)

Contributors of \$12 or more to the Chapter per year are entitled to discounts on all books displayed at CUF meetings.



Blaise Pascal's wager

November 2008



The case for atheism seems to be riding high these days, with the books of several authors on the New York Times' bestsellers list. Virtually all atheists now are evolutionists, since Darwin's theory gives atheists a way to explain the obvious order of the universe with no "Orderer" or God. They have found the watch and have convinced themselves that there is no watchmaker. One of their members even admitted that evolution is "the engine of atheism." Sir Julian Huxley is quoted as saying that he could not have been an atheist before 1859 (the year of the appearance of Darwin's *Origin of Species*).

Three hundred and fifty years ago there lived in France a brilliant young man by the name of Blaise Pascal (1623-1662). He was a mathematician, scientist, apologist for Catholicism and a powerful writer in the French language. His most famous work is his *Pensées*, which has been reprinted many times and translated into all the modern languages.

In his adult years Pascal converted to Jansenism and wrote apologetic works defending Christianity and the existence of God. He was familiar with the "Five Ways" of St. Thomas Aquinas (S.Th. I, q 2, a 3). Being a creative genius and an original mathematician, he was fascinated with probabilities and the odds involved in betting on horses or the outcomes of particular events. He published works on wagers, probabilities and even the roulette wheel.

When Pascal was about thirty years old he went through a spiritual conversion and began to take his religion very seriously. He thought a lot about the existence of God and how to prove it. So he added to the Five Ways of St. Thomas his own "proof" in the form of a wager based on the odds of whether or not God exists.

Pascal's famous wager goes like this, and I ask each of my readers to carefully reflect on it: God either exists or he does not exist, so I must of necessity lay odds for or against him, since I have free choice and in such an important matter I cannot remain neutral. If I wager for God, and God exists—then I have an infinite gain. However, if God does not exist, then there is no loss.

If I wager against God, and God exists—then I will suffer an infinite loss. However, if God does not exist, then there is neither loss nor gain.

In the second case, namely, the wager against God, I find myself in a situation wherein I am exposed to the loss of everything. Self-interest and human shrewdness, therefore, counsel me to make the wager that insures my winning everything or, at worst, losing nothing. It is to my advantage, therefore, to wager for God's existence and to live accordingly.

The proofs for God's existence of St. Thomas are metaphysical and proceed from observed facts to the cause of those facts, which must be an infinite being who is his own existence. Pascal's proof is based on probabilities, not on any observed facts like motion or cause and effect. But for persons who want to win, especially to win an eternal reward, there is a definite attraction in Pascal's Wager.

Kenneth Baker, S.J., Editor
Homiletic & Pastoral Review

St. Gregory VII Chapter

Catholics United for the Faith, Inc

P.O. Box 370302

Milwaukee, WI 53237-0302

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Milwaukee, WI

Permit 829

Return Service Requested

Dated Material – Please Deliver by November 13



Catholics **U**nited for the **F**aith

If you do not want to receive
this newsletter, please print

“Refused”

on the front and drop it in
a mailbox. We will pay for its
return.

Come and bring a friend
to hear Peggy Duemling
Discuss:

**“The Spirituality of the
Missionaries of Charity”**

Sunday, November 16
Blessed Sacrament Church Hall
South 41st St. and Oklahoma Ave.