



# Catholics United for the Faith

Affirming Authentic Catholicism in Milwaukee

St. Gregory VII Chapter  
October, 2011

## REV. JOSEPH L. CUNNINGHAM TO RECEIVE MSGR. POPEK AWARD OCT. 16

Rev. Joseph L. Cunningham will receive the Twenty-third Annual Rev. Msgr. Alphonse S. Popek Award, presented yearly to a priest who exhibits the same zeal for the priesthood, leadership of the laity and fidelity to the Magisterium as that shown by Msgr. Popek.

Born in 1930 in Burlington, Wisconsin, to Leonard and Clarice Cunningham, Fr. Cunningham has two sisters. He attended St. Mary Grade School and St. Mary High School, as well as St. Francis Minor Seminary and St. Francis Major Seminary. He was ordained to the priesthood on May 26, 1956, by Archbishop Albert G. Meyer at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist in Milwaukee.

Fr. Cunningham began his priestly ministry at Immaculate Conception Parish in Milwaukee, where he served from 1956 to 1958. He was then assigned to St. Patrick Parish in Fond du Lac until 1963, after which he moved to St. Mary Parish in Hales Corners where he served until 1968. After a six-month stay at St. Matthew Parish in Oak Creek, Fr. Cunningham served from 1969 to 1975 at St. Rita Parish in West Allis. He then went to St. Agnes Parish in Butler from 1975 to 1988, before going to St. Mary Help of Christians where he served until 2000, when he retired. Fr. Cunningham has also been the Chaplain of the Serra Club of Milwaukee-West since 1984. Since retiring, Fr. Cunningham has continued to serve the Latin Tridentine Community. **Please join us as we honor Fr. Cunningham and hear him discuss:**

### “THE BLESSINGS OF THE PRIESTHOOD”

WHERE: Clarion Hotel and Conference Center

5311 South Howell Avenue

WHEN: Sunday, October 16

TIME: 5:00 p.m. - Social Hour - 6:00 p.m. Dinner



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## REV. MSGR. ALPHONSE S. POPEK AWARD DINNER RESERVATION

Indicate dinner choice and number: Beef Tenderloin Tips\_\_\_\_\_ Baked Chicken\_\_\_\_\_ Orange Roughly\_\_\_\_\_

\$44 per person

Amount enclosed: \$\_\_\_\_\_

\$75 donation “Angel” (includes dinner ticket)

Amount enclosed: \$\_\_\_\_\_

\$150 donation “Papal Tiger” (includes two dinner tickets)

Amount enclosed: \$\_\_\_\_\_

( ) yes ( ) no Name listed in program as “Angel” or “Papal Tiger?”

Total enclosed: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Sorry I cannot attend. Enclosed is a donation to help with expenses: \$\_\_\_\_\_ (Make Check payable to: “St. Gregory VII - CUF”)

NAME(s) (please print):\_\_\_\_\_ PHONE:\_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS:\_\_\_\_\_ CITY:\_\_\_\_\_ STATE:\_\_\_\_\_ ZIP:\_\_\_\_\_

MAIL TO: Ann Taucher - 6235 Walnut Lane, Unit A12 - Cudahy, WI 53110

For questions, call Ann Taucher: 414-768-9718, or Al Szews: 414-321-9377

## ATTEND HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS EVERY 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF THE MONTH AT SEMINARY

Plan to attend a **Holy Hour** for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life, for our seminarians and for the seminary, every second Sunday of the month at 2:00 p.m. in **Christ King Chapel at St. Francis de Sales Seminary**, 3257 South Lake Drive. The Holy Hour includes exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, prayers and rosary for vocations, sung Divine Mercy chaplet, period of silence, scripture with reflection, and Benediction. The Holy Hour is sponsored by “**Roses for Our Lady**,” the seminary, and the vocations office of the Archdiocese. For questions, call Mary Wdowczyk at 414-482-1778, or visit: <http://www.rosesforourlady.com>

## NEED AN INTERESTING AND TOPICAL SPEAKER FOR YOUR CHURCH, GROUP OR SCHOOL?

Our St. Gregory VII Chapter of Catholics United for the Faith offers free, multimedia presentations on a variety of topics. Please visit: [www.cufmilwaukee.org](http://www.cufmilwaukee.org), and our “**Speakers Bureau**,” for a list of interesting speakers and topics that will help your group or parish “Affirm Authentic Catholicism in Milwaukee.” Speakers include Dave Archibald, Jerry Schmutte, and Fr. James Kubicki, S.J., whose talks are co-sponsored by the **Apostleship of Prayer**. For information or scheduling, call Jerry Schmutte at 262-646-8031.

## ANNUAL WHITE MASS TO BE HELD AT BASILICA OF ST. JOSAPHAT ON TUESDAY, OCT. 18

The “**Annual White Mass**” (“white” for traditional medical dress) is sponsored by the **Milwaukee Guild of the Catholic Medical Association**. The **Most Rev. Jerome E. Listeki**, Archbishop of Milwaukee, will celebrate the **Feast of St. Luke**, the patron saint of the medical profession, with a Mass, beginning at 6:30 p.m. The Mass is open to the public and no reservations are needed. Donations will be gratefully accepted. Guest speaker, **Dale O’Leary**, will discuss “**Arming Your Children for the Culture Wars**,” immediately following the Mass in the Basilica Undercroft. Dale O’Leary has been a writer and researcher for the Catholic Medical Association for many years. Her book, **One Man, One Woman**, was the first ever marriage-defense book written with Catholics in mind. Her previous book, **The Gender Agenda: Redefining Equality**, has been published in three languages. For questions, call 414-758-2201, or e-mail: [basalduaa@archmil.org](mailto:basalduaa@archmil.org)

## “CATECHETICAL CORNER”

**Question:** What is the definition of a Sacrament?

**Answer:** As Most Reverend Fabian Bruskewitz, Bishop of Lincoln, explained, in the January 2, 2004, issue of his diocesan newspaper (*The Southern Nebraska Register*) “The old and standard catechetical definition of a sacrament is that, it is ‘an outward sign, instituted by Christ, to give grace.’” Do your children and grandchildren know this?



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## Book of the Month: “Why Catholics Are Right ”

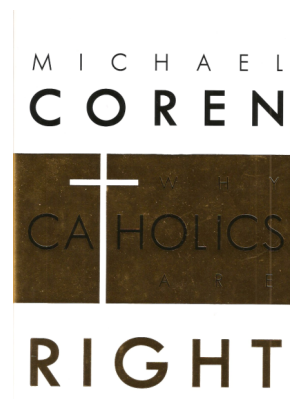
**Author: Michael Coren**

**Publisher: McClelland & Stewart Ltd., 2011**

Michael Coren is host of the nightly *Michael Coren Show* on CTS television, and a weekly columnist, published every Saturday with *Sun Media*, and in more than a dozen other daily and weekly newspapers across Canada. His twelve books include biographies of G.K. Chesterton, H.G. Wells, J.R.R. Tolkien, and C.S. Lewis. He lives in Toronto.

“Michael Coren has written a case for the Catholic faith that is the rarest kind of book: wonderfully readable, intellectually vigorous and stylish in its force. His chapter on the Church and history is worth the price alone; but the whole text is alive with fidelity, penetrating intelligence and the irony of our times, expressed with consummate skill. Highly recommended.”

Charles J. Chaput  
Archbishop of Denver, CO



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

# Defiance

## “The Catholic Governor of Maryland Joins the Gay-Marriage Juggernaut”

*The Catholic World Report*, October, 2011, by George Neumayr, Editor (p.1)

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Illustrating the Latin proverb that the corruption of the best is the worst, many Catholic politicians continue to lead the charge against the natural moral law. Having already defined themselves as champions of “abortion rights,” they now turn aggressively to the culmination of gay ones.

The Catholic governor of New York, Andrew Cuomo, has been enjoying a victory lap after pushing gay marriage through his state’s legislature. Political pundits, citing Cuomo’s success on this issue, now frequently talk about him as a future presidential candidate. Envious of his glory, other Catholic politicians seek to follow in his footsteps. The Catholic governor of Maryland, Martin O’Malley, wants to be “the next Andrew Cuomo,” says the press. O’Malley has announced that passage of gay marriage will henceforth be one of his chief legislative priorities. “There are times in Annapolis when a governor’s support can move an issue over the goal line,” he has said. “I think we can learn from what they did [in New York].”

Far from afraid of the Church’s reaction to his enthusiasm for gay marriage, O’Malley has publicized it. In August, he released to the press letters that he had exchanged with Baltimore Archbishop Edwin O’Brien about gay marriage. “Maryland is not New York,” Archbishop O’Brien wrote to him. “We urge you not to allow your role as the leader of our state to be used in allowing the debate surrounding the definition of marriage to be determined by mere political expediency. The people of Maryland deserve no less.”

“I do not presume, nor would I ever presume as governor, to question or infringe upon your freedom to define, to preach about, and to administer the sacraments of the Roman Catholic Church,” O’Malley replied. “But on

the public issue of granting equal civil marital rights to same-sex couples, you and I disagree...I look forward to working with you on other issues of mutual agreement. And I respect your freedom to disagree with me as a citizen and as a religious leader without questioning your motives.” This patronizing pat on the head and easy dismissal illustrates the audacity of heterodox Catholic pols in contrast to the circumspection and reserve of

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### “Whether or not Communion should be given to an Andrew Cuomo or Martin O’Malley isn’t even a close call.”

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the hierarchy. In victory, Andrew Cuomo offered a similar pat on the head to Archbishop Timothy Dolan, saying that his participation in the gay marriage debate was “reasonable,” by which Cuomo meant ineffectual. It is depressing that even at this late date most Catholic bishops still refuse to deny Communion to such openly defiant Catholic politicians. This neglect of the authority available to them reduces them to the level of letter-writers.

Writing for the Huffington Post, author Julian Guthrie wonders “how progressive Democrats remain Catholics.” The answer is, she concludes, that they can define Catholicism on their own terms:

*...when I look at prominent Catholic politicians with liberal social agendas and wonder how they attend Mass on Sunday and legislate something very different on Monday, I have my answer. Catholicism, a club with magisterial rituals, good deeds, arcane teachings, and more than one billion adherents, is far from monolithic. The house rules that apply are those set by believers themselves. These are the everyday Catholics who may honor their pope but*

*disagree with papal positions, and who hold their faith close but have disdain for much of the dogma. The Catholics who fill the nation’s pews share something with the politicians at the podium: they believe that resistance and reverence can go together like bread and wine.*

One would think this state of affairs might shock bishops into a reassertion of their authority under canon law. But for the most part it doesn’t. Cardinal Raymond Burke’s position remains a lonely one. The head of the Vatican’s Supreme Court has said repeatedly that bishops have not only the right but the duty to withhold Communion from defiant Catholic public figures for the good of souls, the prevention of scandal, and the protection of the sacraments. To the familiar argument from bishops that withholding Communion is contrary to proper pastoral practice, Cardinal Burke says, “What would be profoundly more sorrowful would be the failure of a bishop to call a soul to conversion, the failure to protect the flock from scandal, and the failure to safeguard the worthy reception of Communion.”

Weather or not Communion should be given to an Andrew Cuomo or Martin O’Malley isn’t even a close call. They could not be clearer about their declaration of independence from the Church and lack of communion with her teachings. But as long as the Church doesn’t apply canon law to them, they figure that the political costs of claiming to be Catholic while serving openly in the anti-Catholic vanguard are manageable. Had Archbishop O’Brien written to inform O’Malley that he should no longer present himself for Communion, O’Malley might not have publicized the exchange so proudly. The irony is that O’Malley couldn’t have objected to that exercise of authority. After all, as he wrote in his letter, the archbishop has the “freedom to define, to preach about, and to administer the sacraments of the Roman Catholic Church.”

***THE 2011-2012 SCHEDULE of EVENTS:***

- October 16      **MSGR. POPEK AWARD DINNER**
- November 20    **THE SPANISH ARMADA: THE CATHOLIC VERSION, by Christopher Check**
- December 11    **MSGR. POPEK BIRTHDAY/CHRISTMAS DINNER**
- January 15      **ADDRESSING HISTORICAL ISSUES – THE CRUSADES, by David Archibald**
- February 19     **ENGAGING THE CULTURE, by Margo Szews**
- March 18        **AFTERNOON OF RECOLLECTION, by Fr. James Kubicki, S.J.**
- April 22         **To Be Announced**
- May 20          **To Be Announced**
- October 21, 2012      **MSGR. POPEK AWARD DINNER**



**Catholics United for the Faith**

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

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this e-Newsletter, please print

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in a reply e-mail, and we will  
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Christopher Check will discuss “The  
Spanish Armada: The Catholic Version”  
on Sunday, November 20

**Come and bring a friend to honor**

**Rev. Joseph L. Cunningham,**

**recipient of the**

**Twenty-third Annual Rev.**

**Msgr. Alphonse S. Popek Award**

**Sunday, October 16**

**Clarion Hotel and Conference Center  
5311 South Howell Avenue**