



Sovereign Order of Saint John of Jerusalem ©
* *Knights of Malta* *

August
2015

Chancellor's Update

The More Things Change the More They Remain the Same

Reminded of Pope Benedict's comments before leaving the Petrine Office, he told us that there were two councils: the Council of the Fathers and the council of the media. The media won out. This is what many Catholics are concerned about in this upcoming Synod of Bishops meeting this October in Rome to consider marriage and the family.

BEAR, Del., August 21, 2015 (ChurchMilitant.com) - Do not succumb to America's destructive moral climate. Cling to your African Catholic morality.

Those comments last week from Kenya's Cardinal John Njue, who is [urging](#) Kenyans living in America to hold onto the traditional morality of Africa despite living in America's moral depravity.

Speaking to Kenyan Americans at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton parish in Bear, Delaware, he told them they find themselves in tough times, since the culture in which they live is at odds with their religious beliefs as well as their traditional African norms.

"Many of you were born and raised under strict religious beliefs and African traditions," he said. "But certainly you find yourselves living in a society that allows behaviors that run contrary to these beliefs."

Therefore, he urged, "It is very important that you remain steadfast in your Christian faith."

"Drawing your strength from the knowledge and wisdom of the biblical teachings," he instructed, "bring up your children in the ways of the Lord by saying no to destructive influences perpetuated here in the name of personal freedoms and choices."

Cardinal Njue specifically warned parents to make sure their children don't end up falling into the Western moral collapse. He was referring especially to maintaining the natural family and its traditional roles for father, mother and children.

"When you are being raised in Africa, the roles and responsibilities of the father, mother and children are clearly defined," he observed. "It is not the same case here."

In his talk about the Genesis account of the origin of human sin, Cdl. Njue explained the story of Adam and Eve disobeying God and drawing His wrath in the Garden of Eden. The cardinal noted, "They were clearly told that if you don't follow God's warnings, sin will come upon you but because Eve believed in personal choices, she influenced Adam to commit sin."

Africa has come to have a reputation lately as a bastion of traditional morality, as opposed to the declining Western Catholic countries. The West, especially the United States, has been working to undermine some of the traditional values of Africa in recent years, though. Pope Francis has warned of ["ideological colonization"](#) in such regions, in which Western groups try to strong-arm struggling nations into accepting sexual deviancy in exchange for economic or military help.

President Obama was in Kenya last month, where he made an effort to change the hearts and minds of Kenyans to favor "gay rights." His effort, however, was [shut down](#) by Kenyans.

MEXICO CITY, August 21, 2015 ([ChurchMilitant.com](#)) - Abortion and "gay marriage" are false rights, and Pope Francis hasn't changed the Church's teachings against them.

That's what Cardinal Norberto Rivera Carrera, Primate archbishop of Mexico and archbishop of Mexico City, recently [told](#) a "transgender" Mexican political activist.

The activist, a man who pretends to be a woman named Diana Sanchez, is part of the city's left-wing PRD party. Following countrywide pro-life protests that condemned abortion and same-sex "marriage" in Mexico, Sanchez tried to rebuke the nation's Catholic leaders, saying their endorsement of the protests in their cities defied Pope Francis' alleged new direction for the Catholic Church.

He was also trying to lecture Cdl. Rivera on how to govern fellow bishops, demanding that the cardinal look into and even "punish" other members of the clergy who supported the protests. According to Sanchez, the events "promote[d] discrimination against citizens based on their sexual orientation" and thus the Catholic leaders advocating them "allowed and encouraged homophobic attacks."

Sanchez went further than complaining about "discrimination," though, later insisting that legal abortion as well as homosexual "marriage" have been a "good for the population."

Cardinal Rivera responded to Sanchez last week through his archdiocese's website, citing the *Catechism*, which deems abortion murder and homosexual acts intrinsically disordered.

"Murdering a child inside its mother's womb can never be a good for the woman who experiments this drama," said Cdl. Rivera, "let alone for the child who is deprived of the first of all of rights which is that of life."

He added, "Many women who have aborted often seek reconciliation with Our Lord and with themselves. You cannot imagine the pain and guilt they suffer when they realize that aborting was a horrendous act in which they murdered their own child."

As far as abortion and same-sex "marriage" are concerned, these are "false rights," said the cardinal.

Appealing to the *Catechism*, he noted how people suffering from same-sex attraction "must be accepted with respect, compassion, and sensitivity"; however, he maintained the same *Catechism's* declaration that "homosexual acts are intrinsically disordered" as well as "contrary to the natural law."

"They close the sexual act to the gift of life. They do not proceed from a genuine affective and sexual complementarity. Under no circumstances can they be approved," said Cdl. Rivera, quoting the *Catechism* — adding, "and Pope Francis has not changed this Church doctrine." Cardinal Rivera ended by praying that Sanchez will one day discover and embrace the truth, as revealed by Jesus Christ.

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