

WOMEN'S ORDINATION AND THE NEW YORK TIMES

On Saturday, the Catholic Church was the subject of a critical editorial in the *New York Times*, and yesterday, columnist Maureen Dowd joined the attack. At issue is a recent set of Vatican norms. Catholic League president Bill Donohue addressed their concerns today:

On July 15, the Vatican released new norms that were divided into 31 articles. The *New York Times* editorial found unacceptable those governing the sexual abuse of minors, and the stricture against women's ordination. Maureen Dowd focused on the same issues, though her style was the usual boilerplate.

They need to get a few things straight: the issue of women's ordination in the Catholic Church should be treated the way the *Times* treats the Orthodox Jewish strictures against eating pork and the Muslim practice of barring sex during the day while Ramadan is being observed—with thundering silence. Moreover, the *Times* never criticizes Orthodox Jews and Muslims for segregating the sexes in many settings. Nor should it: it's no one's business. Would that it do the same for Catholicism's proscription of women's ordination.

By contrast, it is perfectly acceptable to take issue with any religion's positions on public policy matters, e.g., abortion, school vouchers, embryonic stem cell research and gay marriage. But the house rules of *all* religions need to be respected (save for those few instances where innocent life may be threatened). Not to do so is to show contempt for diversity. And that is exactly what the *Times* is doing: it is using its secular yardstick to measure the doctrinal prerogatives of Catholicism.

Regarding the Vatican's norms on the sexual abuse of minors—a legitimate source of criticism—we would still like to know why the *Times* has yet to criticize the public schools in the United States for not modeling their norms on the ones adopted by the Catholic Church at home, and in Rome. It is the former that have “rubber rooms”—not the latter.

Contact Arthur S. Brisbane, the new public editor of the newspaper: public@nytimes.com

PARISHES IN BROOKLYN CONTACTED; MOTHER TERESA CAMPAIGN CONTINUES

Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments on Day 47 of the protest campaign on behalf of Mother Teresa:

Today I am writing to every parish in Brooklyn informing them of our protest demonstration at 6 p.m. on August 26 outside the Empire State Building on 34th Street and 5th Avenue.

The rally is being held to protest the decision by Anthony Malkin, the owner of the storied building, to deny a tribute to Mother Teresa: our request to have the towers shine blue and white, the colors of her congregation, on August 26th, the 100th anniversary of her birthday, was originally denied without explanation, and was later denied on appeal by invoking a “policy” that prohibits honoring religious individuals or institutions. If this were in fact true, then (a) they would have said so from the beginning (instead they told me the application looked fine), and (b) they would not have honored Cardinal O'Connor when he died; Pope John Paul II

when he died; the Salvation Army; and Rev. Martin Luther King.

Yet the same persons who chose to stiff Mother Teresa decided to honor the Chinese Communist revolution last year, even though 77 million innocent men, women and children were murdered under Mao Zedong. By contrast, the U.S. Postal Service is honoring Mother Teresa with a commemorative stamp.

Everyone is being asked to pass the word about our demonstration and to join us on August 26. They are also being asked to write to Anthony Malkin. His address is Malkin Properties, One Grand Central Place 60, E. 42nd St., NY, NY 10165.

Contact Daniel Hernandez: daniel.hernandez@edelman.com

PARISHES IN QUEENS CONTACTED; MOTHER TERESA CAMPAIGN CONTINUES

Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments on Day 46 of the protest campaign on behalf of Mother Teresa:

Today I am writing to every parish in Queens informing them of our protest demonstration at 6 p.m. on August 26 outside the Empire State Building on 34th Street and 5th Avenue.

The rally is being held to protest the decision by Anthony Malkin, the owner of the storied building, to deny a tribute to Mother Teresa: our request to have the towers shine blue and white, the colors of her congregation, on August 26th, the 100th anniversary of her birthday, was originally denied without explanation, and was later denied on appeal by

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LINDSAY LOHAN’S CATHOLIC MOMENT

A poster for the upcoming Robert Rodriguez movie, “Machete,” shows Lindsay Lohan dressed in a nun’s habit licking the barrel of a gun. Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments as follows:

What is it about these Catholic-raised girls that makes them so adolescent, so silly and rebellious at the same time? Madonna takes liberties with the crucifixion; Lady Gaga struts her trampy stuff playing a nun; and now poor Lindsay Lohan

dons a habit while finding phallic pleasure with a gun. No matter, it looks like Lindsay's Catholic moment isn't good enough to lure the audience—she didn't make the trailer.

Twentieth Century Fox certainly has her number: Lindsay doesn't have what it takes to tease the movie, but she is eminently worthy of exploitation. Perhaps the poster girl will be able to give this some thought while serving time in jail for 90 days, starting next week. If she makes the necessary reforms, she may yet claim her true Catholic moment. That would be our gain, and Twentieth Century Fox's loss.

PARISHES IN THE BRONX CONTACTED; MOTHER TERESA CAMPAIGN CONTINUES

Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments on Day 45 of the protest campaign on behalf of Mother Teresa:

Today I am writing to every parish in the Bronx informing them of our protest demonstration at 6 p.m. on August 26 outside the Empire State Building on 34th Street and 5th Avenue.

The rally is being held to protest the decision by Anthony Malkin, the owner of the storied building, to deny a tribute to Mother Teresa: our request to have the towers shine blue and white, the colors of her congregation, on August 26th, the 100th anniversary of her birthday, was originally denied without explanation, and was later denied on appeal by invoking a "policy" that prohibits honoring religious

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PARISHES IN MANHATTAN CONTACTED; MOTHER TERESA CAMPAIGN CONTINUES

Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments on Day 44 of the protest campaign on behalf of Mother Teresa:

Today I am writing to every parish in Manhattan informing them of our protest demonstration at 6 p.m. on August 26 outside the Empire State Building on 34th Street and 5th Avenue.

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to Mother Teresa: our request to have the towers shine blue and white, the colors of her congregation, on August 26th, the 100th anniversary of her birthday, was originally denied without explanation, and was later denied on appeal by invoking a “policy” that prohibits honoring religious individuals or institutions. If this were in fact true, then (a) they would have said so from the beginning (instead they told me the application looked fine), and (b) they would not have honored Cardinal O’Connor when he died; Pope John Paul II when he died; the Salvation Army; and Rev. Martin Luther King.

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PARISHES IN SUFFOLK COUNTY CONTACTED; MOTHER TERESA CAMPAIGN CONTINUES

Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments on Day 43 of the protest campaign on behalf of Mother Teresa:

Today I am writing to every parish in Suffolk County informing them of our protest demonstration at 6 p.m. on August 26 outside the Empire State Building on 34th Street and 5th Avenue.

The rally is being held to protest the decision by Anthony Malkin, the owner of the storied building, to deny a tribute to Mother Teresa: our request to have the towers shine blue and white, the colors of her congregation, on August 26th, the 100th anniversary of her birthday, was originally denied without explanation, and was later denied on appeal by invoking a "policy" that prohibits honoring religious individuals or institutions. If this were in fact true, then (a) they would have said so from the beginning (instead they told me the application looked fine), and (b) they would not have honored Cardinal O'Connor when he died; Pope John Paul II when he died; the Salvation Army; and Rev. Martin Luther King.

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UNIV. OF ILLINOIS TRASHES FREE SPEECH

An adjunct professor at the University of Illinois, Ken Howell, has been fired for explaining in an e-mail that homosexuality violates Catholic natural law teachings. Commenting is Catholic League president Bill Donohue:

The University of Illinois should be sued, and we will work with professor Ken Howell in seeing to it that it is. He was fired for his religious viewpoint, an unacceptable reason that will not stand up in court.

Codes of academic freedom were written expressly to combat abuses like this, and that is why this case must be taken very seriously. It is not up to faculty chairs or deans to sit in judgment on the moral propriety of any religious orientation. Moreover, viewpoint discrimination is not tolerable, especially in higher education. Looks like the University of Illinois has gotten itself into a jam.

PARISHES IN NASSAU COUNTY CONTACTED; MOTHER TERESA CAMPAIGN CONTINUES

Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments on Day 42 of the protest campaign on behalf of Mother Teresa:

Today I am writing to every parish in Nassau County informing

them of our protest demonstration on August 26 outside the Empire State Building on 34th Street and 5th Avenue.

The rally is being held to protest the decision by Anthony Malkin, the owner of the storied building, to deny a tribute to Mother Teresa: our request to have the towers shine blue and white, the colors of her congregation, on August 26th, the 100th anniversary of her birthday, was originally denied without explanation, and was later denied on appeal by invoking a "policy" that prohibits honoring religious individuals or institutions. If this were in fact true, then (a) they would have said so from the beginning (instead they told me the application looked fine), and (b) they would not have honored Cardinal O'Connor when he died; Pope John Paul II when he died; the Salvation Army; and Rev. Martin Luther King.

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AOL NEWS WRITER COMPARES POPE

TO TERRORIST

Recently, CNN fired Octavia Nasr for praising Grand Ayatollah Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah on her Twitter account. Following his death, Nasr wrote that she was “sad” to hear of his passing and said that he was “One of Hezbollah’s giants I respect a lot.” While commenting on this story on AOL News, contributor Paul Wachter asked whether CNN should be consistent and fire anyone who praises Pope Benedict XVI “who covered up the clerical rape of young boys and whose anti-contraception proselytization has contributed to the deaths of millions from AIDS?”

Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments on this today:

The fact that Paul Wachter would compare Pope Benedict XVI to the anti-Semitic, pro-terrorist Fadlallah is despicable. But his ignorance makes his commentary truly astounding. Despite the ceaseless efforts of those in the media—in particular the *New York Times*—there is absolutely no evidence that the pope has covered up any instances of priestly sexual abuse.

Wachter is also wrong in saying that the pope has contributed to millions of deaths for denouncing the indiscriminate distribution of condoms. In fact, as Harvard professor Edward C. Green has said, “Many countries that have not seen declines in HIV have seen increases in condom use, but in every country worldwide in which HIV has declined there have been increases in levels of faithfulness and usually abstinence as well.”

It’s so nice to learn that Wachter praises Fadlallah for being pro-woman. Inconveniently for him, his hero is also pro-terrorist.