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Los Angeles Times

DODGERS

Catholic League launches radio ad campaign urging boycott of Dodgers' Pride Night



The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence Los Angeles participate in the WeHo Pride Parade in West Hollywood on June 4. (Genaro Molina / Los Angeles Times)

BY CHUCK SCHILKEN | STAFF WRITER JUNE 6, 2023 UPDATED 12:56 PM PT

A Catholic advocacy group has launched a radio advertising campaign calling for a boycott of the <u>Dodgers' Pride Night</u> because it will feature a pregame ceremony honoring the <u>Sisters of Perpetual</u> <u>Indulgence</u>.

The Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights says it will run 25 ads on KABC-AM (790) during a five-day stretch, starting Tuesday, calling for fans to stay away from Dodger Stadium on June 16 to "send

an unmistakable message that bigotry against Catholics should not be tolerated."

The <u>Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence</u> is a satirical performance and activist organization that refers to itself as "a leading-edge Order of queer and trans nuns." The Sisters have been around for decades and are known for raising awareness and money for LGBTQ+ causes and providing comfort to members of that community.

In an email sent to The Times on Tuesday morning, the Catholic League refers to the Sisters as "an anti-Catholic group." Others, including <u>former Vice President Mike Pence</u>, have expressed similar sentiments in the wake of the Dodgers' decision to invite, then <u>uninvite</u>, then <u>re-invite the Sisters to Pride Night</u>.



DODGERS

Clayton Kershaw disagreed with Sisters' award, sought return of Dodgers' Christian day May 29, 2023

Based on the content of its radio ad, the text of which was also included in the group's email to The Times, the Catholic League is hoping all those who agree will send a message to the <u>Dodgers</u> by not taking part in Pride Night.

"We are not asking Catholics to boycott all games. Just this one," the group states in its ad. "By doing so, we will send an unmistakable message that bigotry against Catholics should not be tolerated. If attendance dips on June 16, the entire league will take note. Please boycott this game."

The Sisters posted a response to the boycott attempt <u>on their website</u>:

"Though it is not our place to comment on the choices of organizations not our own, we, The Los Angeles Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, fully support the LA Dodgers on Pride Night and on every other night they magnificently play baseball. We unequivocally support our own LGBTQTIA2S community, as always. We warmly invite every Dodger Blue loving Angeleno fan to join us in cheering on our home town team as they trounce the Giants on June 16!"



SPORTS

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KABC and the Dodgers did not immediately respond to requests for comments on this story.

An all-talk radio station based in Culver City, KABC was the radio home for Dodgers games from 1974 to 1997 and 2008 to 2011. It has broadcast USC football and basketball games since 2019.

On May 22, less than a week after removing the Sisters from their Pride Night lineup, the Dodgers <u>extended a new invitation</u> to the organization after receiving backlash from LGBTQ+ and civil rights groups and others.

"The Dodgers would like to offer our sincerest apologies to the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, members of the LGBTQ+ community and their friends and families," the Dodgers said in a statement that day. "We have asked the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence to take their place on the field at our 10th annual LGBTQ+ Pride Night."



DODGERS Mike Pence says baseball should apologize for 'welcoming anti-Catholic bigots' June 1, 2023



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