

# MANCIPIA

September 2006

THE REPORT OF THE CRUSADE OF SAINT BENEDICT CENTER



## TO FRIENDS OF THE CRUSADE:

### ST. PIUS X: ON DOGMA AND KARMA



Br. André Marie, M.I.C.M., Prior

There is a silly bumper sticker occasionally seen on old Volkswagens and Datsuns: “My Karma Ran over Your Dogma.” Punning on the theme of cars running over dogs, the slogan is a profession that the driver has abandoned some oppressive Western religion like Catholicism (“dogma”) for an enlightened Eastern religion, like Buddhism or Hinduism (“karma”).

In these esoteric systems, *karma* is probably the closest thing to what we Catholics call *sanctity*. According to Merriam Webster’s Dictionary, karma is “the force generated by a person’s actions held in Hinduism and Buddhism to perpetuate transmigration [i.e., reincarnation] and in its ethical consequences to determine the nature of the person’s next existence.”

Eastern religions, with all their mystifying gibberish, are very anti-dogmatic. They are, in fact, atheistic, since they don’t really believe in God. Buddhists, for instance, believe in some unintelligent, formless thing, a force which is the exact opposite of God: something Catholic philosophers would call prime matter, which is pure potency, neither good nor evil.

This, by the way, is why Luke Skywalker and Darth Vader — when he was a bad guy — could use “the Force” for good or for evil: *Star Wars* was explicitly based on this kind of oriental pantheism.

Catholicism, which has the correct notion of sanctity, is *dogmatic*. Our Lord was a teacher who came to impart “teachings,” which in Latin we call *doctrina* and in Greek, *dogma*. Our Lord came to “give testimony to the truth” (Jn. 18:37), and this truth is contained in “the faith once delivered to the saints” (Jude 1:3), which you and I know as Catholicism.

What does this have to do with St. Pius X?

A lot. St. Pius X (feastday: September 3) knew that sanctity depended on one’s adherence to the true Faith, and that is why such a saint was also such a stickler for dogma. The pun is irresistible: He would not have been Pi(o)us if he had not been dogmatic.

Most traditional Catholics who imagine what the original Modernists were like would think of a lying scoundrel like Alfred Loisy or a sardonic blasphemer like George Tyrrell, the two kingpins of the movement, both of whom were excommunicated by Pope Pius X. But there were other Modernists who appeared very “nice.” They even looked *holy* and talked a great deal about sanctity.

One of them was Baron Friedrich von Hügel (1852-1925). This son of an Austrian diplomat had a Scottish mother and was reared in England. (Though he wrote in English, it is said that

he wrote it as if it were German.) The Baron thought that the contradictions between the modernist notions he held (German rationalism, the denial of biblical inerrancy, etc.) and the Catholic Faith were not that big a deal in the big picture. He attempted to reconcile these differences by *transcending* them. Petty squabbles about the inspiration of the Gospels and such simply did not matter. What mattered was *sanctity*, a thing most easily seen in the lives of the mystics. His masterpiece was a biography of the mystic, St. Catherine of Genoa, to whom he was very devoted. He was also a daily communicant and frequently made holy hours before the Blessed Sacrament.

All the while, the Baron functioned as “the godfather and telephone exchange of the early Modernist movement,” in the words of Fr. John McKee. Many of the early Modernists knew each other only by correspondence; the wealthy and well-traveled von Hügel knew them all personally and *connected* them. It was he who convinced the young Tyrrell to learn



Pope St. Pius X

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# FOUNDER'S COLUMN



Fr. Leonard Feeny, M.I.C.M.

## YOU'D BETTER COME QUIETLY

Editor's Note: September is dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows, whose feastday is on the 15<sup>th</sup>. The feast of St. Michael the Archangel is on the 29<sup>th</sup>, leading into October, which is the month of the holy guardian angels (and the Rosary). Since Mary and her angels are so much on the mind of the Church at this time, we

bring you this abridged ending of Father Feeny's magnificent essay: *You'd Better Come Quietly*.

**T**here are exactly nine worlds of angels, each order surpassing the order below it similarly as the orders of life surpass each other in the material sphere.

Angels are not for the bourgeois, who lack any relish for hierarchy. Angels are for poets, soldiers, and saints.

[An angel] is launched into existence by a stroke of God's will, fully intelligenced for all his natural functions. He knows in the first flash of his existence all he ever will know, short of the Beatific Vision, which, of course, he must earn by some trial of fidelity. No angel ever went to school. Secondly, so powerful is his will that when he makes a choice he remains rooted, fixed in it by sheer force of spiritual drive, forever and ever. The angels who chose God in their trial-instant stayed fixed in adoration of Him always. If you were to ask what an angel could do

in relation to the material world, I should tell you. He could, by sheer force of will, hurl the planet Mars out of its orbit and disrupt all the others. What wonder that Christ says part of an angel's care of us is to see we do not dash our foot against a stone!

[The first] hierarchy of angels is especially interested in human welfare. We each

have an angel to protect and pray for us — a *Guardian Angel*. There is an *Archangel* set over large spiritual enterprises, such as a diocese, maybe even a parish, maybe even a large household. The *Principalities* concern themselves with human interests that rise to the proportions of national importance. Then, of course, the upper angels look always with especial care and interest on the order of angels just below them.

The second great hierarchy of angels is called by these mysterious, yet wonderfully impressive, names: *Powers*, *Virtues*, and *Dominions*. [Connecting note from the editor: This middle trinity of choirs maintains order in the universe.]

Remember, as you advance towards God, through the ranges of excellence in intellectual and spiritual intensity bestowed on each of these ascending groups, you see a new revelation in the order of knowledge and love of the raging power of God. It is *on and on* with the angels, *more and more, greater and greater, wilder and wilder* beauty, *intenser and intenser* light as we follow an arrow-path to the Absolute.

And now we soar into the last great hierarchy of angels, the mightiest, loftiest spirits of all. Ranged in a last breathless order of three (everything created seems to be threefold in some aspect, so as to image the Blessed Trinity of God Himself) are the top aristocrats of the angelic system. Their interests are far, far away from us, it would seem. Their concerns all lie Godwards.

Even to mention them [*Thrones, Cherubim, and Seraphim*] takes your breath away. The *Thrones* are the "foundation" angels, or so I like to call them. The *Cherubim* are the "knowledge" angels, that is to say, theirs is knowledge *par excellence*. The *Seraphim* are the "love" angels. They feed on the infinite adorableness of the Divine essence.

After we have passed the last flaming seraph in the world of angel, what comes next? The Godhead itself? . . . In the order of nature, yes. In the order of Grace, no!

Strangely enough, in the dispensation of Grace, creation restores itself into flesh and blood once more, and we find human nature again at the portal of the Divine Reality. We find it in the form of a girl, with hands and eyes and hair, and a heart; airing her maiden-mother manners at the summit of all creation, constituted Queen of the Universe, with dominion over all angels and all men, more beautiful in her single reality, more pleasing to God, more full of grace, than all the rest of creation put together. She is "beautiful as the moon, chosen as the sun, mighty as an army set in array." She is the Queen of Angels. She is the Mother and the Queen of Men. She originated on this little Earth of ours, pertains to our race, our kind, is related to us not by the angelic ties of love and thought, but by the very fibers of flesh and blood.

Her alliance to God is threefold. She is the Daughter of the Father, the Spouse of the Holy Spirit, and the Mother of the Son. She presents all creation with a baby, whose name in Eternity is God, and whose name in time is Jesus.

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# SAINT BENEDICT CENTER NEWS

## GOD BLESS THE IRISH!



The Entrance to the Center

each of these events will have to wait until the October issue of our newsletter.

A very dear friend of the Richmond community has been suffering the debilitating effects of Alzheimer's disease for many years now, with the past three taking a heavy toll. His name is Richard McNamara, otherwise known to everyone (even his daughters) as "Mac". How much longer our friend has in this vale of tears is known only to God, but he has been confined to a bed for about a year now. His daughter, Mrs. Bridget Panzer, together with her husband Randy and three little children, have been taking care of Mac in their home right across the road from our monastery.

A friend of Saint Benedict Center for thirty-three years, this strapping Irishman (he stands six foot four) has been one of our most generous supporters, both financially and inspirationally, since the day he first arrived for a Sunday Mass at our Still River, Massachusetts, residence so many years ago. Mac met Father Feeney, Brother Francis, and Brother Hugh, and all the Slaves of Mary that day, and, to be sure, they had a friend for life. Soon Mac will be on his way to an everlasting life of joy where, we believe, Father Leonard and Brother Hugh will join his angelic escort. One of the original Third Order members of the Slaves of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (Brother Wenceslas, M.I.C.M., Tertiary), Mac was always the lead man carrying the Blessed Mother's statue in all of our May processions until he could no longer physically do so. How much we all miss his powerful tenor voice, especially at Benediction, when he would set the tone and pace for every hymn! And, if anyone needed to know whose feast day it was for any day of the year, all one had to do was ask Mac; he had the Church Calendar completely memorized. How much Brother Francis must miss seeing him in the front row seat of every one of his lectures! How many countless times did we all see him weep at the mere mention of Mary's name!

Mac came to the Center by the strangest of providential coincidences. With his wife Elsie (now deceased) and three daughters packed into

As this September *Mancipia* goes to press in the second week of August two major events are on the horizon: our annual Blueberry Fiddle Festival and our annual weekend Conference in Fitchburg, Massachusetts. A report, therefore, on

a station wagon, Mac set out one Sunday morning to attend Mass at his local parish in Milford, New Hampshire, pastored by a traditional-minded friend of his, Father Francis Clifford. Lo and behold, as he was driving along, a car appeared in front of him with a *Pray the Rosary* bumper sticker. Pulling up closer, Mac could see that the family was dressed in their Sunday best. He decided to follow them just to see where they went to Mass. Thirty miles later they parked at St. Ann's chapel at the sister's convent in Still River, where the Tridentine Latin Mass was to be offered by Father Leonard Feeney's brother, Rev. Thomas Feeney, S.J.

Mac's two other daughters are Mrs. Kathy Willette and Sister Therese, who is the superior of a traditional community of sisters in Missouri.

Our chaplain, Father Jarecki, brings Mac Holy Communion regularly. Please pray for Mr. McNamara, his late wife, and his family. No more generous and loyal a layman has the Good Lord graced our community with over the years than this plucky Bostonian (born and raised in Hyde Park) who, literally, could sing every birdsong. Mac is eighty one years old.

As he was driving one Sunday morning, a car appeared in front of him with a *Pray the Rosary* bumper sticker on it. He decided to follow. Thirty miles later he pulled in to the Center.



Bridget Panzer and Richard McNamara



Mr. Brian Kelly, Editor

## COMMENTARY AND OTHER RELEVANT MORSELS

**W**hen Spain Was at Her Zenith: A Calm and Realistic Study of Philip II, Who Ruled Spain When So Much of the World Was a Spanish Possession.”

This is the title of the complimentary article that appeared on January 2, 1938, in (of all places) the *New York Times*, reviewing William Thomas Walsh's masterpiece: *Philip II*. Doug Bersaw (Br. Anthony Mary, M.I.C.M., Tert.) located the piece in searching the Internet. Jewish investor, Arthur Hays Sulzberger, ran the media titan in 1938, and it is this family that still owns the newspaper (and dozens of other media outlets, including the *Boston Globe*). He was the son-in-law of Jewish publisher Adolph Ochs, who bought the *NY Times* in 1886. Ochs coined the paper's slogan: "All the News That's Fit to Print" (sic). It is ironic that a newspaper so attached to leftist and anti-Catholic causes, as it was in the 30s (and is rabidly so today), should have allowed such an unbiased and favorable review of such a controversial Catholic monarch to escape its censors — and that, when the Spanish Civil War was raging (1936-1939), with the *Times* in total support of the anti-clerical Republican revolutionaries.

The writer, Percy Huchinson, was not Catholic so his praise of Walsh is all the more a cause for wonder. Before I quote from the article, however, I would like to alert those *Manciopia* readers who may never have heard of this biography, as to why it is so relevant a production, especially for those who take their membership in the Church Militant seriously. Incidentally, it was the first book, not published by Saint Benedict Center, which Brother Francis gave me to read back in 1973.

Perhaps no Catholic ruler in history faced so relentless and malicious an onslaught against his realm and its holy religion, while defeating it on nearly every front, as did the magnanimous King Philip II. The "black legend" conjured up by Eng-

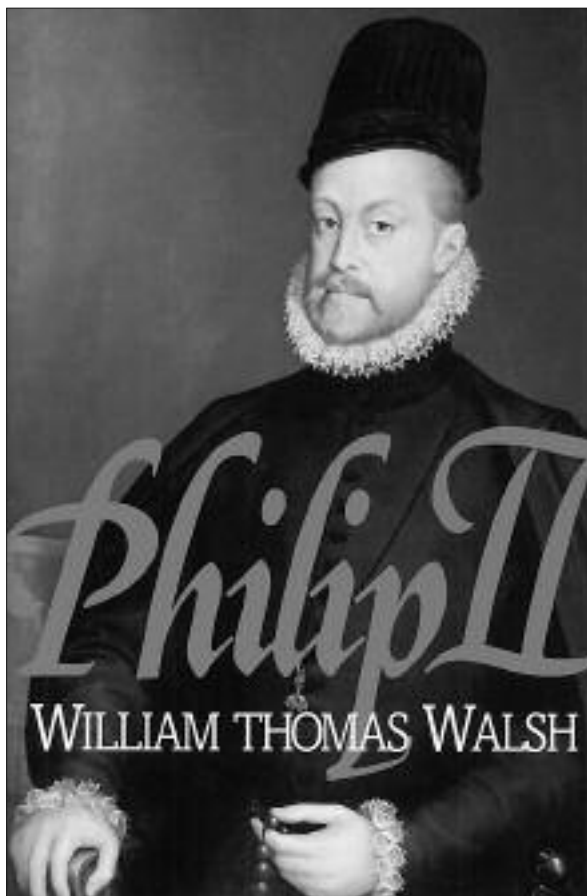
lish Protestant historians against this valiant man and his father, Emperor Charles V, and glorious great-grandmother, Queen Isabella, had penetrated even the Catholic English-speaking world, until this book (and many afterwards) set the record straight.

In order to appreciate what Philip achieved for Christendom, consider these points: During his reign (1556-1598) England completed its apostasy as a nation; France was being undermined by Huguenots and allying itself by secret treaties with the Ottoman Mohammedan Turks; the papacy and its court was in the midst of a long overdue reform (Council of Trent); the Low Countries (consisting of more than the present Netherlands) were lost to the heretics; the Moriscos (Moslem Moors), still harboring in southern Spain after their defeat at Granada, were plotting a re-conquest with support from Marrano Jews (pretended Catholics). And, perhaps the most corruptive element of all, an occult well-funded secret society,

*Alumbrados* (Illuminates), under the pretense of reforming an "outdated" religion, went around the country holding clandestine seance-like rallies where they mocked the sacraments and feigned possession by the Holy Ghost. Like the Albigensians, they engaged in a campaign of defamation against the Church, seduced rich widows, frolicked with indecent young girls in nocturnal orgies, and murdered their enemies.

What Philip did to save Spain was to fight back as a Catholic. He reactivated the Inquisition to establish order and security throughout his kingdom. To preach heresy in public, or attack the Catholic religion, was once again a capital offense. To one heretic, who accused him of cruelty, he countered that if his own son obstinately attacked the Church of Jesus Christ, he would have him executed. Why? Because, in the Catholic mind of this monarch, the salvation of souls came first, and the peace of the realm would follow upon putting the honor of Jesus Christ first.

What Philip did to save Spain was to fight back as a Catholic.



The excellent book *Philip II*, available from our bookstore

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## KELLY'S FORUM

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Philip, as King of Spain, contributed eighty galleons to the fleet of the Holy League that defeated the Mohammedans in the naval battle of Lepanto in 1571, thus securing the Mediterranean Sea and coastal ports from the savagery of infidel raids. The huge Armada he sent in 1588 to liberate England from its illegitimate Protestant Queen was scattered to the winds, literally, when a ferocious gale wrought havoc upon the fleet. Defeated by what the Spaniards called a "Protestant wind," Philip took the loss philosophically. He launched the building of the monumental El Escorial (which was to be a monastery), in fulfillment of a vow he made to the martyr St. Lawrence in thanksgiving for a major victory over the French, which was achieved on his feastday.

Almost always dressed in black on account of so many sorrows, and so many deaths of loved ones, Philip was a king that could be seen writing legislative documents at his desk long hours into a candle-lit night. He was always in touch with his subjects, keeping the government of his people within his fatherly grasp. And, upon occasion, the king could be seen, hat under arm, accompanying some local priest who was bringing the Blessed Sacrament to a sick one.

If you do not believe, or you doubt that there is and has long been, a dedicated conspiracy to destroy the Catholic

Church, then this book will educate you as no other. In gratitude for vindicating their country in the eyes of English speaking people, the Spanish government in 1944 awarded the Irish biographer with their highest cultural honor: The Cross of Comendadore of the Civil Order of Alfonso the Wise. He was the first North American to be so honored.

Here is the best of many good things that Percy Huchinson had to say of our author:

"But, if Dr. Walsh is at times contentious, he is not only generous to his adversaries, but also, by pointing immediately to sources, he transfers the burden of proof to his opponent. Consequently, his *Philip II* is so thoroughly documented that it must stand as a calm and realistic portrayal of a man and an era often more exciting to the imagination than fiction, while the suavity of his impeccable literary style offers constant delight."

(To purchase *Philip II*, see the bookstore ad on page 7.)

In the Catholic mind of this monarch, the peace of the realm would follow upon putting the honor of Jesus Christ first.

## YOU'D BETTER COME QUIETLY

from page 2

She is the Mother of Divine Grace, powerful in her intercession. She is not God, she is the *Gate to God*, the Gate of Heaven. There is no passing to Eternal Life except through her. She is understanding, innocent, marvelously simple and unsuspecting, tender towards sinners. She takes us each by the hand and leads us to the Beatific Vision, and shares the radiant beauty of Christ's human nature begotten in her womb.

One cannot escape her. One cannot get into Heaven except through the Gate!

"You'd better come through the Gate!" God says to each of us. Hesitations, incertitudes, nervousness, suspicions, doubts, what good do these do either a man or an angel?

"You'd better come through the Gate . . . !

"And . . . you'd better come quietly!"

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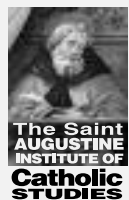
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## ST. PIUS X: ON DOGMA AND KARMA

from page 1

German so he could study contemporary (*bad*) philosophy in that language. It was he who put Tyrell into contact with Alfred Loisy. Yes, the young convert-priest, Tyrell, was corrupted by a holy-looking, philanthropic, and respectable layman!

Later, when Loisy and Tyrrell were censured, the pious Baron dutifully defended them.

Another Modernist was Father Henri Brémond (1865-1933) who wrote a multi-volume work on the history of French spirituality, expounding on the work of such greats as St. Francis de Sales, St. Jane Frances de Chantal, and St. Vincent de Paul. Yet, this same man was a good friend of the excommunicate, his fellow ex-Jesuit, George Tyrell. When Tyrell had been denied a Catholic funeral, Brémond tried unsuccessfully to convince the parish priest to disobey the bishop and grant him one anyway — even though Tyrell refused to recant his errors. Brémond was suspended as a priest for holding a graveside service for his friend.

What lessons can we draw from this? Many, including this one: Don't assume that your "pious" friend who rejects Church teaching is "holy" because he looks it. Human sanctity is an intimate union with the God of all truth through sanctifying grace, for which faith is necessary: "Without faith, it is impossible to please God" (Heb. 11:6). *Holy people don't reject the Catholic Faith.* On the other hand, the Faith is the seed of holiness given freely by the Blessed Trinity, a seed we are all *obliged* to nurture, with God's grace, so that the Holiness of the Church will be more visible and God will be more glorified.

St. Pius X was not fooled by the Modernists, whose novelties undid the very *notion* of revealed religion. The great pope saw their perfidy even when it dressed up in its Sunday best. He

whose motto was "to restore all things in Christ" knew that Jesus, the spotless Utterance of the Father, teaches man truth through an infallible Church, to whom alone He gave the Holy Ghost, and whom *all men must hear* if they are to be saved.

We pray for our current Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, in this time of trial, that he will unambiguously thunder the *orthodox* and *holy* message of this venerable predecessor of his:

"In peace We wait for those to be silent who are loudly proclaiming that the Catholic Church has had her day, that her teaching is hopelessly reactionary, that she will soon be reduced either to conformity with the data of science and a civilization without God, or to withdrawal from the society of men. And while We wait, it is Our duty to recall to everyone, great and small, as the Holy Pontiff Gregory did in ages past, *the absolute necessity which is ours to have recourse to this Church to effect our eternal salvation, to obtain peace, and even prosperity in our life here below*" (*Jucunda Sane*, March 12, 1904).

We can be assured that nobody's karma ran over *his* dogma!

What lessons can we draw from this? Many, including this one: Don't assume that your "pious" friend who rejects Church teaching is "holy" because he looks it.

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## EXTRA ECCLESIAM NULLA SALUS

Ex Cathedra: "There is but one universal Church of the faithful, outside which no one at all is saved." (Pope Innocent III, Fourth Lateran Council, 1215.)

Ex Cathedra: "We declare, say, define, and pronounce that it is absolutely necessary for the salvation of every human creature to be subject to the Roman Pontiff." (Pope Boniface VIII, the Bull *Unam Sanctam*, 1302.)

Ex Cathedra: "The most Holy Roman Church firmly believes, professes and preaches that none of those existing outside the Catholic Church, not only pagans, but also Jews and heretics and schismatics, can have a share in life eternal; but that they will go into the eternal fire which was prepared for the devil and his angels, unless before death they are joined with Her; and that so important is the unity of this ecclesiastical body that only those remaining within this unity can profit by the sacraments of the Church unto salvation, and they alone can receive an eternal recompense for their fasts, their almsgivings, their other works of Christian piety and the duties of a Christian soldier. No one, let his almsgiving be as great as it may, no one, even if he pour out his blood for the Name of Christ, can be saved, unless he remain within the bosom and the unity of the Catholic Church." (Pope Eugene IV, the Bull *Cantate Domino*, 1441.)

### CALENDAR NOTES:

- Fall Ember Days, September 20, 22, and 23. Traditionally, these are days of fast and abstinence to ask for God's blessings on the new season.
- Christ the King Novena, Saturday, October 21 to Sunday, October 29. Please see the Third Order Manual for the novena prayers.

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## MANCIPIA September 2006

THE REPORT OF THE CRUSADE OF SAINT BENEDICT CENTER

Of interest:

**Auriesville Pilgrimage**, Wednesday, September 27 to Saturday, September 30. If you are interested in joining one of our brigades, please call us at 603.239.6485 (men and boys) or 603.239.6495 (women and girls). Visit [www.national-coalition.org/pilgrim](http://www.national-coalition.org/pilgrim) for details.

**Dogma vs. Karma**. Ever wondered what the bumper sticker "My Karma ran over your Dogma" meant? Find out on page 1.

**Crusade News**. Find out how to join our informative email list on page 5.



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