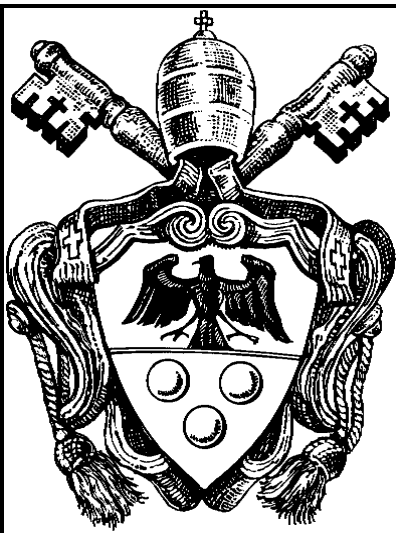


Acta Sanctæ Sedis

Pope Pius XI

Studiorum Ducem, On St. Thomas Aquinas, June 29, 1923

26. But inasmuch as St. Thomas has been duly proclaimed patron of all Catholic schools because he marvelously combined both forms of wisdom, the rational and the divinely inspired, because he has recourse to prayer and fasting to solve the most difficult problems, because he used the image of Christ crucified in place of all books, let him be a model also for seminarians, so that they may learn how to pursue their studies to the best advantage and with the greatest profit to themselves. Members of religious communities should look upon the life of St. Thomas as upon a mirror; he refused even the highest dignities offered to him in order to live in the practice of the most perfect obedience and to die in the sanctity of his profession. Let all the Faithful of Christ take the Angelic Doctor as a model of devotion to the august Queen of Heaven, for it was his custom often to repeat the "Hail Mary" and to inscribe the sweet Name upon his pages, and let them ask the Doctor of the Eucharist himself to inspire them with love for the Divine Sacrament. Priests above all will be zealous in so doing, as is only proper. "For Thomas was accustomed, unless prevented by illness, to say Mass daily and heard another Mass said by his *socius* or some other friar which he very often served," declares the careful historian of his life. But could anyone find words to express the spiritual fervour with which he said Mass himself, the anxious care with which he made his preparation, the thanksgivings he offered to the divine Majesty after he had said it?



27. Again, if we are to avoid **errors** which are the source

and fountain-head of all the miseries of our time, the teaching of Aquinas must be adhered to more religiously than ever. For Thomas refutes the theories propounded by Modernists in every sphere, **in philosophy**, by protecting, as We have reminded you, the force and power of the human mind and by demonstrating the existence of God by the most cogent arguments; **in dogmatic theology**, by distinguishing the **supernatural from the natural order** and explaining the reasons for belief and the dogmas themselves; **in theology**, by showing that the articles of faith are not based upon mere opinions but upon truth and therefore cannot possibly change; **in exegesis**, by transmitting the true conception of divine inspiration; in the **science of morals**, in **sociology** and **law**, by laying down sound principles of legal and social, commutative and distributive, justice and explaining the relations between justice and charity; in the theory of **asceticism**, by his precepts concerning the perfection of the Christian life and his confutation of the enemies of the religious orders in his own day. Lastly, against **the much vaunted liberty of the human reason** and its independence in regard to God he asserts the rights of primary Truth and the authority over us of the Supreme Master. It is therefore clear why **Modernists** are so amply justified in fearing no Doctor of the Church so much as Thomas Aquinas.

CAMPAIGN TO KICK THE VATICAN OUT OF THE UN GROWS TO 400 ORGANIZATIONS

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Almost one year ago, a group of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) announced that they intend to get the Vatican kicked out of the United Nations. Through extensive international media coverage, a sophisticated web-site, and advertising in the New York Times, the campaign has grown to 400 organizations that are now calling for the UN to downgrade the status of the Vatican from Permanent Observer to NGO.

The leader of the campaign is Frances Kissling, President of Catholics for a Free Choice (CFFC), an NGO dedicated to overturning official Catholic teaching on contraception and abortion. Kissling last year compared the Holy See's position at the UN with "Euro-Disney sitting on the Security Council." Kissling wondered "why...an entity that is in essence 100 square acres of office space and tourist attractions...with a citizenry that excludes women and children have a place at the table where governments set policies affecting the very survival of women and children."

Called "See Change", the campaign began with 70 organizations, including one of the most powerful UN NGOs, International Planned Parenthood Federation, the largest abortion provider in the world. The coalition has grown to include three major strands: pro-abortion groups, those in favor of population control, and groups hostile to religion.

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