



# Boston Catholic Journal

Nihil nisi Jesum

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Dedicated to Mary, Mother of God

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## Carefully Crafted Bad Language ... but from the Vicar of Jesus Christ on Earth?

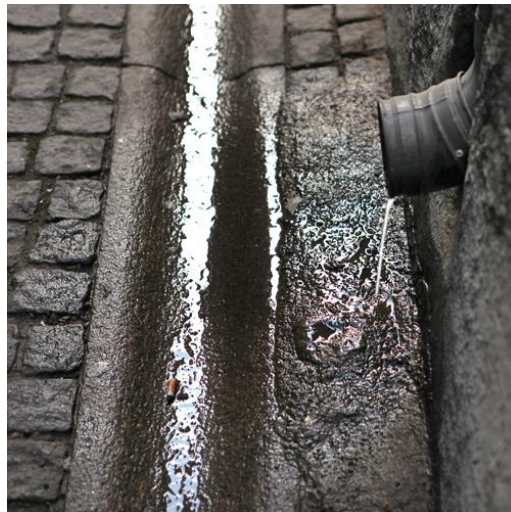


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# The “Copro” Hits the Fan

**In an interview with** Belgian Catholic weekly *Tertio* Francis said of those whom he considers his detractors — because they publish the growing tension between the pontiff and orthodox Catholic media concerning the “*Dubia*” or five simple questions that can answered in one word: “yes” or “no” relative to his post-synodal exhortation *Amoris Laetitia* — the following (quoting *Reuters News*):

“Using precise psychological terms, he said scandal-mongering media risked falling prey to **coprophilia, or arousal from excrement**, and consumers of these media risked **coprophagia, or eating excrement.**”

Francis then added, "And since **people have a *tendency* towards the sickness of coprophagia**, a lot of damage can be done."<sup>1</sup>

## From a Pope? We are Ashamed ...

**A pope** using *this* language concerning those with whom he disagrees?

Everyone knows the four-letter word he is using and instantly sees beyond the sanitized psychological nomenclature. We know what he was “really” saying ... and thinking ... and are *shocked* by it ... *ashamed* of it.

Any parent who changes an infant’s diapers and says, “*Oh, my ... there is so much copro in this diaper, but since I am not hungry I will throw it away!*” has serious

verbal, linguistic, and communication problems with the rest of the world — to say nothing of an apparently widespread psychological disorder.

Let us, then, render this arcana into terms comprehensible to the rest of the world:

“Using *ordinary* terms, he said scandal-mongering media risked falling prey to **being aroused by sh--**, and consumers of these media risked **eating sh--**.”

Francis then added, "And *since* **people have a tendency towards the sickness of eating sh--**, a lot of damage can be done."<sup>1</sup>

## **How is that for cutting through the bull-copro?**

Can you imagine a head of state (which Francis is) using this language to denigrate his perceived detractors? Good grief, even the FCC (Federal Communications Commission) defines “**indecent speech**” as “language or material that, in context, depicts or describes, in terms patently offensive as measured by contemporary community standards for the broadcast medium, sexual or **excretory** organs or activities.”<sup>3</sup> That is to say, were the interview *broadcast*, the FCC would have banned Francis’s depiction of those in disagreement with him as “indecent”! No, wait! He sanitized them, so it’s okay. Or is it ...?

Catholics, non-Catholics, atheists, and anyone else living on this planet will likely respond in utter incredulity with words we can only hint at: “H- -y Copro! Did *the pope* himself *really* say that?!”

Sadly, yes ...

To quote *Lifesite News*:

“So now, if the translation [Reuter’s] is correct, as most of these usually are, **if we dare to see and report what are obviously newsworthy developments that do not reflect well on the pope or his close collaborators, we are “scandal-mongering,” “eating excrement” and being sexually aroused by this excrement of reporting uncomfortable truth.** How can a pope, the Vicar of Christ, make such vile accusations? Whatever happened to, “Who am I to judge?””<sup>2</sup>

Perhaps we live in parallel universes, but Francis’s apparent conviction that “people have a tendency towards the sickness of coprophagia” is startling. We had never so much as *heard* of the word, let alone encountered the *tendency* within ourselves or anyone else on the planet that we have met.

There is, however, *another* affliction much more common, and we fear that the more our present pontiff speaks, the more we are led to the frightening conclusion that Francis is *non compos mentis* (**not of a sound mind**). Like coprophilia and coprophagia — that he appears to see in others as a broad tendency — it is a sickness of the mind. This is not said disdainfully or sarcastically. It is said with great pity — and great alarm.

Let us pray for his speedy recovery.

Editor  
Boston Catholic Journal

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1. <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-pope-media-idUSKBN13W1TU> Wed Dec 7, 2016
  2. <https://www.lifesitenews.com/blogs/climate-of-fear-in-the-vatican-is-very-real>
  3. <http://www.newseuminstitute.org/about/faq/how-does-the-fcc-define-indecent-speech/>



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