



Boston Catholic Journal



NIHIL NISI IESUM

Dedicated to Mary, Mother of God

Salus Animarum Suprema Lex Esto (Canon Law 175)

The Salvation of Souls is the Supreme Law in the Church

Africa Not Alone



America



Britain



Australia

“Confraternities of Catholic Clergy” of Three Nations

Reject

Fiducia supplicans

(the Blessing of Same Sex Couples)

Did you know that the [Confraternities of Catholic Clergy](#) from *three nations* — to say nothing of the continent of Africa — **reject *Fiducia supplicans outright*** and refuse to implement it?

What? Here in America? *Yes!* In Britain? *Yes!* In Australia? *Yes!*

These are not the tepid and *ambiguous* statements of, for example, the **USCCB** that:

while we acknowledge “a distinction between liturgical (sacramental) blessings, and pastoral blessings” ... we want “to accompany [people in homosexual “unions”] through the imparting of pastoral blessings.” ([United States Conference of Catholic Bishops](#))

No. The rejection by these national priestly Confraternities stands in *bold* and *stark* contrast to the bishops’ hand-wringing:

American Confraternity:

- “Sinful behavior and disordered inclinations can never be blessed or condoned. Even the appearance of endorsement of any moral evil must be avoided at all cost lest one infer that the one giving the ‘blessing’ is also a formal cooperater in evil, which is always forbidden.”
- “great care is warranted lest the façade be made that not only the person but also their actions and beliefs are also receiving an ‘imprimatur’ of sorts.”

- “*the contemplative must not defer to the senses; however credible their reports may appear. Moreover, St. John argues, in their tangible dimensions, these sensuous communications cannot, in reality, bear any proportion to, and are in fact the ontological opposite of, the spiritual reality which they purport to convey.*”

British Confraternity

- “Basing itself on Sacred Scripture, which presents *homosexual acts as acts of grave depravity*, tradition has always declared that “homosexual acts are intrinsically disordered.” They are contrary to the natural law.”
- “we see no situation in which such a blessing of a couple could be properly and adequately distinguished from some level of approval. Thus, it would inevitably lead to scandal – to the individuals concerned – to those involved directly or indirectly in the blessing – or to the minister himself”
- “With honest *parresia* and from our own experience as pastors we conclude that such blessings are pastorally and practically inadmissible.”

Australian Confraternity

- “sexual acts between persons of the same sex are intrinsically disordered and are contrary to the natural law.”
- “such blessings of their nature are ordered to communion with God; to conversion and sanctification, and so can never be bestowed on sinful acts nor legitimize relationships that are intrinsically incompatible with the divine

plan.”

Despite a predictable absence of reporting about this in the media, and the growing resistance to *Fiducia supplicans*, it would appear that many of our priests still burn with an Apostolic zeal that has long since burned out of Francis & Friends, leaving only smoldering wicks. For that we must be immensely grateful, and remember these good men in our prayers and sacrifices.

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Feast of St. John Bosco



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