

“Take Heed” Ministries

December 2023

Dear praying friends and supporters of ‘Take Heed,’

Yet another year is drawing to a close and it has certainly been a momentous year on the ‘world stage.’ Battles have been raging in the Middle East and in Eastern Europe and many lives have been lost. However, a greater battle continues and that is to win hearts and souls of people to faith alone in Christ alone before they are eternally lost.

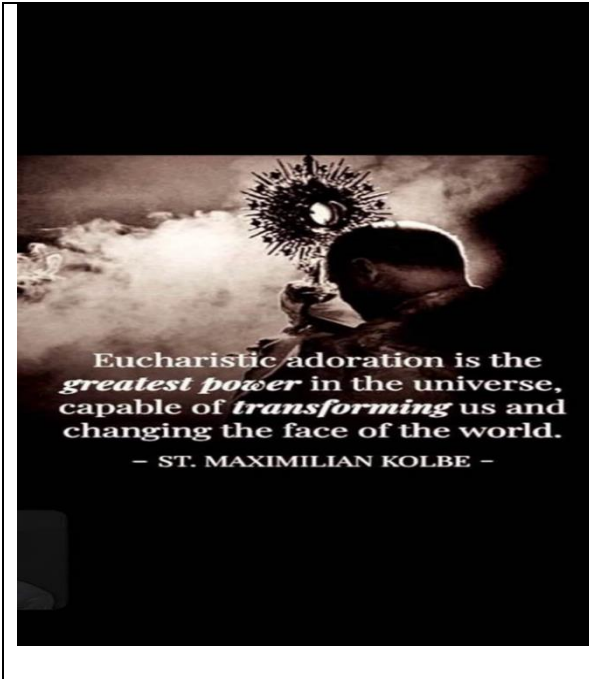
In Martin Luther’s great hymn, ‘**A Mighty Fortress is our God,**’ (described on Wikipedia as the “**Battle Hymn of the Reformation**”) part of the first verse reads ‘**For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe, his craft and power are great.**’ Another web site states this – ‘**He wrote it during the darkest time of the Reformation, a time of widespread persecution from the Catholic Church.**’ I think in Luther’s mind the ‘**ancient foe**’ was undoubtedly Satan but his means to ‘**work us woe**’ was through the anti-Christian, Roman Catholic religion.

The Reformation exposed and diminished Rome’s ‘**craft and power**’ but didn’t entirely ‘kill it off’ and today there is what I would call ‘**Rome’s Resurgence.**’ Locally this ‘**resurgence**’ has been ‘**personality-driven**’ and here are some examples of the crafty workings of our ‘**ancient foe.**’

MARTINA PURDY

For a number of years **MARTINA** was a reporter and political commentator for BBC Northern Ireland TV. Then in 2014 she resigned from that job and entered a religious order as a novice. The order she joined, along with a friend, **Elaine Kelly**, was the **Sisters of Adoration** situated on the Falls Road in Belfast. However, in 2019, before they could take their final vows, the convent closed due to declining numbers. The **Sisters of Adoration** made altar breads for use during Mass so clearly, ‘**Eucharistic Adoration**’ was very important in the religious life of **MARTINA** and this is reflected in something she posted on Facebook in August. (See the left image that follows). That image prompted me to pen an article – ‘**Eucharistic Adoration: Worshipping the bread of death**’ and it is now posted to the ministry web site.

There is no doubt that ‘**Eucharistic Adoration**’ appears to have **a mesmerising effect** upon people who are deeply entrenched in Roman Catholicism – back in 2021 a well-known priest, **Patrick McCafferty**, took to the streets of Belfast in an open-top car, displaying a ‘**consecrated wafer**’ in a monstrance (see the right image that follows) and people knelt and ‘**adored**’ it as he drove past. **MARTINA** and her friend **Elaine** have since joined the **Sisters of Poor Clare** but are also active in promoting ‘**Pilgrimage**’ walks in and around Downpatrick (featured in an edition of ‘Songs of Praise’) and special events involving other well-known personalities as I shall detail shortly.



DANA and PHILIP MULRYNE

I mentioned 'special events' that **MARTINA** and other well-known 'personalities' were involved in and one such event was held in **St Michael the Archangel Church** in Belfast from 2nd-6th October. This was how a notice for the event read and the photo features **PHILIP MULRYNE** (in the white robes) and **DANA** with some of the clergy

'A former Manchester United footballer (**Philip Mulryne**) turned priest will join Eurovision's **Dana** for a five-day "Light The Fire" event ... The theme for the event, taking place at St Michael the Archangel Church from October 2-6 at 7pm each evening, is taken from Dana's new song for St Patrick who lit the first Easter fire at Slane in 433 AD. Dana, who won the Eurovision song contest for Ireland in 1970 with "All Kinds of Everything", has continued to perform and write songs, ... Other speakers include ... former BBC political correspondent and St Patrick's Pilgrim Guide, **Martina Purdy**'



Despite the evidence of **'Rome's Resurgence'** it is also conscious that it is part of a world that is 'culturally-changing' and it feels the need to address these changes. An unprecedented **'Synod on Synodality'** was held in Rome in October. **SHAUN WILLCOCK** of **'Bible Based Ministries'** wrote an excellent article and in it he said –

Rome is desperate to transform itself to fit in with a very radicalised, “progressive,” liberal, Socialist world. It knows that huge changes have to be made, or it will be left behind. But it has to act cautiously and gradually, so as not to alarm the faithful. Far better to deceive them into thinking they are part of a process of Holy Spirit-led transformation! Massive Changes are Planned The guiding document of the Synod is called *Instrumentum Laboris*. What the delegates are required to deal with are such burning issues as women deacons, priestly celibacy, and LGBTQ outreach ... The Jesuits and others within the hierarchy have come to the conclusion that the only way for Rome to remain relevant in the world is to radically alter its teachings and accommodate these changes in society. So the Jesuit pope emphasises that “the doors of the Church are open to everyone, everyone, everyone!” Suddenly, Rome is declaring itself to be welcoming to all, to condemn none and embrace all lifestyles. Unbending doctrine and dogma are now to be downplayed or “re-interpreted” to meet modern challenges.

Roman Catholics are not the 'unreachables' and I was greatly encouraged when a friend in England sent me the text of her testimony that she had recently given publicly for the first time. **Clare** had been a devout and active Roman Catholic – she wrote

'I was born in Liverpool to Roman Catholic parents in 1958 ... at age seven I made my first holy communion, confession, and later confirmation ... I got 3 sets of rosary beads for my communion, and a prayer book depicting pictures of the mass ... As I got older, I led a more liberal lifestyle ... and tried to still get to confession when I could ... I then met Mike who was also a Catholic, we got married, and had 2 sons by the time I was 21 ... I would pray to statues and light candles ... We then became involved in the Catholic Charismatic movement ... We went to Israel, with a Catholic group, to Lourdes in France, Knock in Ireland twice, to Walsingham, to Rome and 3 times to a place in Bosnia called Medjugorje, where allegedly the “Madonna” (or Mary), was “appearing” to some young people ... I thought that visiting holy places was an extra dimension to my religion ... I also dabbled in New Age things ... I got into Buddhism, contemplative prayer, and meditations, all taught by a RC priest who I knew ... Meanwhile I had also made some sound contacts through the internet ... One of the ministries I exchanged emails with was “Take Heed,” an apologetics ministry, based in NI, which was founded by Cecil Andrews ... I emailed Cecil many times and he patiently answered my questions with many scriptural references ... So while Cecil was helping me, he was also helping Mike, gently pointing me in the right direction. Mike wouldn't read articles or books, but he would watch a DVD, so Cecil sent a couple about the errors of the Catholic church and we watched them together ... I wanted to take Mike over to NI to see Cecil, he could explain more, and I suggested we could stay somewhere over there near him and meet up. Instead, Cecil kindly suggested that we could stay with him and his wife Margaret, even though we'd never met. We travelled to see them in June 2008, and stayed for 3 days! Our heads were virtually exploding when we got back with all the new realisations! ... I then started a “church search” with Cecil helping ... One of the churches recommended was Aughton Park Baptist, Chris Hand and another man from Crich Baptist Church had recommended it, and Cecil was the third person to endorse it. Mike left his church a couple of months later. At last we were both in a biblically sound church and as Cecil had told us – we needed to “sit regularly under the word,” a phrase I had never really come across before! ... I am still amazed that He set me free from all these obstacles, and false teachings, but it is only through God's kindness and compassion, and saving grace, that I am now free from it all! I am still a work in progress, and have much to learn!

Clare's MUCH fuller and detailed testimony can be viewed on the ministry web site.

In September I posted the following article

“A GOSPEL CONTRARY”

Roman Catholic abuse of history and of Scripture.

My good friends, Tim Kauffman and Rob Zins (both former Roman Catholics) have just published a new book called ‘A GOSPEL CONTRARY.’ In this book they address the writings and claims made for Roman Catholicism by one of its leading apologists, Patrick Madrid. They respond in an orderly and bible-based fashion to his book ‘Answer Me This’ and in the introduction they write – “Patrick Madrid tries in vain to put Roman Catholicism in the Bible. But it does not fit. It never will fit.” Chapter by chapter they address what Mr Madrid has written in his book and then put on record their bible-based rebuttal.

Copies of the book can be purchased via AMAZON.

Moving on from ‘things Roman’ I want to mention the further downward spiral of so-called ‘Progressive Christianity’ and I highlighted that spiral in an article titled –

HARBOUR FAITH COMMUNITY:

‘Progressive UNIVERSAL Salvation’

In a Facebook post (2nd October) Harbour Faith Community (‘pastored’ by Steve Ames who I wrote about in my June letter) said the following – **The Gospel message is not that you need to “get saved” by believing the correct things about God, it is that salvation is already given - whether we realise it or not. You are already a beloved and ‘saved’ child of God - completely, objectively and forever.**

Absolutely NOT true and part of my rejection of that statement read as follows - There is no ‘Progressive UNIVERSAL Salvation’ – the Lord Jesus Christ came to “SAVE HIS people from their sins” (Matthew 1: 21). As the good shepherd He said “I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd giveth his life FOR THE SHEEP” (John 10: 11). In what could be viewed almost as a direct rebuke to HARBOUR FAITH COMMUNITY and Steve Ames, the Apostle Paul wrote “For after that in the wisdom of God, the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of PREACHING to SAVE them that believe.” (1 Corinthians 1: 21)

It seems to me that the pace of error and deception is ratcheting up dramatically and never were the words of the Lord, from which this ministry derives its name, more relevant **“Take heed that no man deceive you” (Matthew 24: 4) SINCERE THANKS** for all your past practical and prayerful support and if you would once more like to practically support the ministry then please utilise the yellow ‘support letter’ - see **page 5. ONLINE DONATIONS** in support of ‘Take Heed’ can also be made by going to either of these links (donations via the 2nd link can be **GIFT AIDED**) –

<http://www.takeheed.info/donations/>

<https://www.stewardship.org.uk/partners/20036241>

Warm greetings in Christ from both Margaret and me

Cecil Andrews

**“TAKE HEED” MINISTRIES
‘Support Letter’**

Dear Cecil,

I wish to support the ongoing work and ministry of “Take Heed” Ministries and enclose herewith my gift of £

(Cheques should be made payable to “Take Heed” Ministries)

FROM: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Please post to
“Take Heed” Ministries
29 Edengrove Park
Ballynahinch
Co Down
BT24 8AZ

Increasingly people are asking if they can support the ministry financially by making an ONLINE transfer. The answer is ‘YES’ and these are the details needed to do so.

**BUSINESS ACCOUNT:
Sort Code: 98-00-55
Account No: 82508042
Account Name: TAKE HEED Ministries**

