

From “The Most Asked Questions about the SSPX”

Chapter XV: What are we to think of the Sedevacantists?

(Continued from last month)

The argument does not prove its point, and becomes less probable when you consider that there are other explanations for the 'material heretic' Pope (a) - (see below), and it becomes quite improbable when you consider its dangers (b) or consequences (c).

(a) The liberal mindset of a Pope Paul VI or a Pope John Paul II can be an explanation of their wanting to be Catholics and their simultaneous betrayal in practice of Catholicism. They accept contradictions; with a subjective and evolutive mentality, this is to be expected. But such a frame of mind can be convinced of heresy only by way of authority.

(b) The Church is indefectible not only in her faith and means of sanctification, but also in her monarchical constitution, comprising governing power, i.e. jurisdiction, hence Vatican I's profession that Peter will have perpetual successors.

Now, we can understand a break in the line of Popes from the death of one to the election of the next, and that it may drag on. But is indefectibility preserved if there has been no Pope since 1962 or if there is no one with ordinary jurisdiction whom the sedevacantists can point out as such? The Church is visible and not just a society composed of those who are joined by interior bonds, (state of grace, same faith...) A society is recognised and maintained as such by its authority.

(c) If the Church has not had a Pope since the days of Vatican II, then there are no more cardinals legitimately created. But then how is the Church to get a Pope again, as the current discipline grants only to Cardinals the power to elect a Pope?

The Church could have ordained that non-cardinal 'electors of the Pope' be capable of doing it, but we cannot go by any other way than the current discipline which ordains that cardinals elect him.

A few sedevacantists hold that he has been or will be directly designated by private revelation from heaven. There are spiritual consequences to sedevacantism:

Sedevacantism is a theological opinion, and not a certitude.

To treat it as a certitude leads to condemning with temerity traditional Catholics who disagree; and invariably it leads to one's recognising no spiritual superior on earth. Each becomes, in practice, his own 'little pope', the rule of faith and orthodoxy, the judge of the validity of the sacraments. This being so, we ought not to associate with or receive the sacraments from them, most especially if they set up sedevacantism as a certitude which all have to accept.

Our Lady of Fatima Church

Belgravia Avenue, Glenroy, NSW 2640



October 2026

Contact Details: Fr. Marcel Ockerse; albury@spx.au 02 4829 5177; www.spx.au
Parish Catechism for Adults & Post-Confirmation: 2nd & 4th Sundays of the Month
Retreats at Holy Cross: Information/sign up retreats@holycrossseminary.com
Weekly giving: SSPX Albury Account - BSB: 640 000, Acc: 111 012 485
Confessions: Sundays: 8am / First Friday: during Holy Hour / First Saturday: 8am /
Other: 30mins before Mass

MASS SCHEDULE

Fri	Oct. 2 5:30 pm	First Friday. Holy Guardian Angels. Holy Hour followed by Holy Mass (Servers: Ac1. T. Garcia, Ac2. Tob. Garcia, Th. T. Walmsley)
Sat	Oct. 3 8:30 am	First Saturday. St. Therese of the Child Jesus. Benediction & Rosary followed by Holy Mass (Servers: Ac1/Mc. D. Goldthorpe, Ac2/Th. J. Walmsley)
Sun	Oct. 4 9:00 am	Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost. Low Mass (Servers: Ac1. T. Goldthorpe, Ac2. J. Sands)
Sat	Oct. 10 5:00 pm	St. Francis Borgia. Holy Mass (Servers: Ac1. C. Walmsley, Ac2. N. Walmsley)
Sun	Oct. 11 9:00 am	Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost. Comm. Maternity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Low Mass followed by Benediction - Holy Name (Servers: Ac1/Mc. Ca. Alkemade, Ac2/Th. D. Goldthorpe)
Sat	Oct. 17 5:00 pm	St. Margaret Mary Alacoque. Holy Mass (Servers: Ac1. T. Garcia, Ac2. Tob. Garcia)
Sun	Oct. 18 9:00 am	Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost. Comm. St. Luke Low Mass (Servers: Ac1. J. Walmsley, Ac2. Ca. Alkemade)
Sat	Oct. 24 5:00 pm	St. Raphael Archangel. Holy Mass (Servers: Ac1. N. Walmsley, Ac2. T. Walmsley)
Sun	Oct. 25 9:00 am	Feast of Christ the King. Sung Mass followed by Procession of the Blessed Sacrament (Servers: Mc. T. Goldthorpe, Ac1. J. Sands, Ac2. J. Walmsley, Th. T. Garcia, Bb. Tob. Garcia, Cb. D. Goldthorpe, Tb. C. Walmsley, Tb. T. Walmsley, Umb. S. Walmsley)
Sat	Oct. 31 5:00 pm	Our Lady on Saturdays. Holy Mass (Servers: Ac1. L. Kennedy, Ac2. C. Walmsley)

PARISH ROSTER

For the Sunday of	Done during the preceding week		On the Sunday		
	Flowers	Church Cleaning	Tea Stall	Rosary Leader	Pilgrim Statue
4 Oct.	L. Kelly	G. D'Oliveiro/ L. Kelly	Foley	Liam Kennedy	Garrett
11 Oct.	J. Jellett	M. Small	Foley	Braedon Onions	Goldthorpe
18 Oct.	M. Tonner	G. D'Oliveiro	Foley	Jordan Mervart	Small
25 Oct.	K. Beggs	M. Small/ M. Walmsley	Foley	Kevin Higginson	D'Oliveiro

ANNOUNCEMENTS

First Saturday.

There will be a serving day on Saturday 3rd October to hone our liturgical skills and get in some practice for a Solemn High Mass to be celebrated on the feast of All Saints next month. All servers are encouraged to come along for the morning. Lunch will be provided.

Recollection and First Confession.

On Saturday 24th October, 3pm-4:30pm, there will be a recollection at the Church for the children preparing to receive their First Holy Communion. This recollection will provide the opportunity for them to make their first confession.

Feast of Christ the King and First Communions.

Sunday 25th October is the Feast of Christ the King, the day chosen for the First Communions. There will be a Blessed Sacrament procession after Mass to celebrate our Lord's universal kingship.

Retreats at Holy Cross.

Next retreats will be for the women 12th-17th October 2026. Applications via the link: <https://spx.au/en/retreats-holy-cross-parish-31177> or fill out the application form in the bookstore.

Faithful Departed.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Thomas Moloney, Edward Calnan, Marjorie Wilson and Ian Moloney whose anniversaries occur in October.