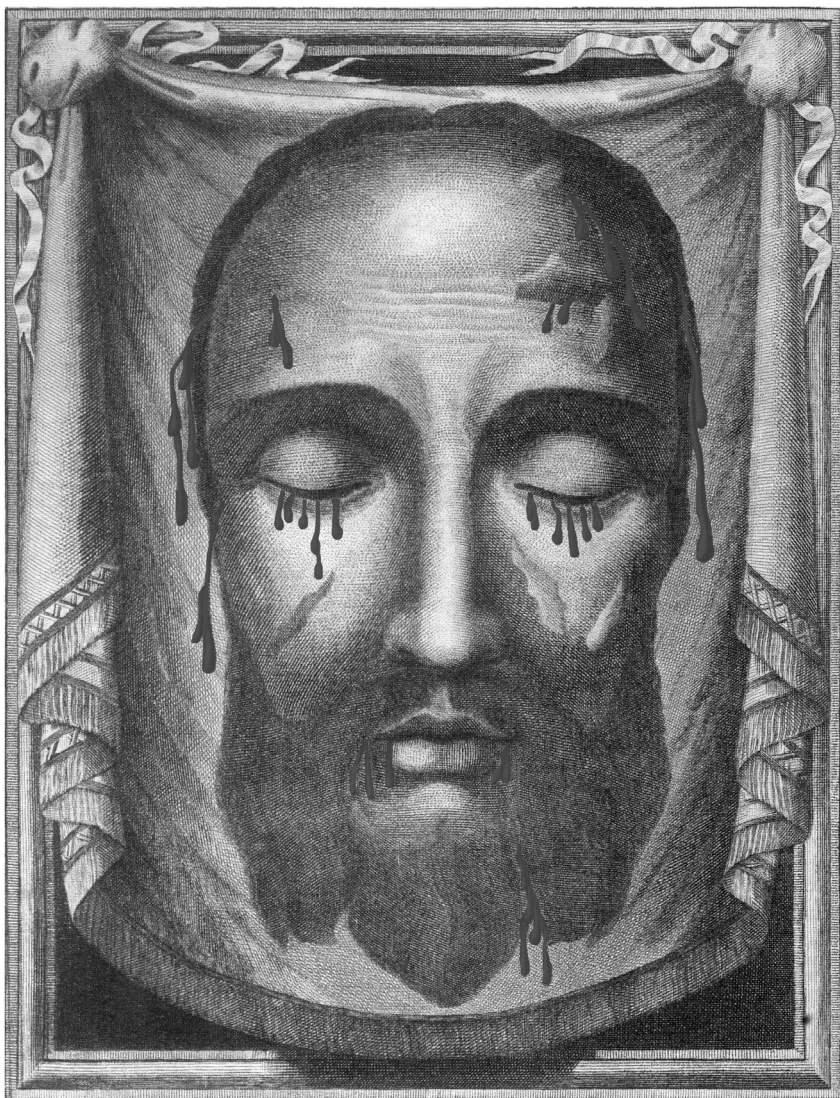


THE SECRET OF THE
H O L Y
F A C E



VERA EFFIGIES SACRI VULTUS D.N. JESU CHRISTI
quae, Romae, in Sacrosancta Basilica S. Petri in Vaticano religiosissime assevat, et colitur.

Tradition holds that this Holy Face of Jesus image is from Veronica's veil.
The veil is kept in St. Peter's Basilica.

THE SECRET OF THE
H O L Y
F A C E

THE DEVOTION DESTINED
TO SAVE SOCIETY

FR. LAWRENCE DANIEL CARNEY III

TAN Books
Gastonia, North Carolina

The Secret of the Holy Face: The Devotion Destined to Save Society
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Unless otherwise noted, Scripture quotations are from the Douay-Rheims Bible.

Cover design by Jordan Avery

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Interior image: Provided by Congregation of the Sons of the Most Holy Redeemer, Papa Stronsay, UK.

Library of Congress Control Number: 2022933124

ISBN: 978-1-5051-2266-4

Kindle ISBN: 978-1-5051-2267-1

ePUB ISBN: 978-1-5051-2268-8

Published in the United States by

TAN Books

PO Box 269

Gastonia, NC 28053

www.TANBooks.com

To Pope Leo XIII
Who raised the Confraternity of the Holy Face
To the rank of an Archconfraternity
To exist in perpetuity and for all countries
Of the world, wherever they may be,
Ubique terrarium
By a Brief
Of His Holiness Pope Leo XIII
Establishing
The Archconfraternity of the Holy Face
Given at Rome, near St. Peter
Under the ring of the fisherman
The eighth year of his Pontificate
1 October 1885

*“Five of yours shall pursue a hundred others,
and a hundred of you ten thousand:
your enemies shall fall before you by the sword”*
—Leviticus 26:8

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Foreword

DESPITE CHRIST HIMSELF revealing that “Reparation to His Holy Face is the highest devotion,”¹ most devout Catholics today have not heard of it. Remarkably, Christ defines this devotion as “allied to the great Redemption and as the most noble and necessary work of our times.”² He warns, however, that “Satan will make use of every means in his power to annihilate this work,”³ which may very well be the reason for its modern-day “obscurity.” For some decades after its immediate approval for the whole world by Pope Leo XIII in 1885, however, the Holy Face Devotion was at the center of some of the greatest miracle-working in Church history⁴ and was as well-known as the Devotion to the Sacred Heart.

Christ, in fact, revealed that “the Holy Face Devotion emanates from that of His Sacred Heart, the one complementing the other.”⁵ It is through the Sacred Heart that man

¹ Sister Mary St. Peter, *Life of Sister Mary St. Peter Carmelite of Tours*, ed. M. L’Abbe Janvier (France, 1884), pp. 198, 312, 329. Devotions are forms of popular piety outside the Catholic liturgy, which is, however, their origin and aim.

² *Ibid.*, p. 312.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 154.

⁴ Thousands of miracles took place at the hands of Venerable Leo DuPont whom Blessed Pope Pius IX described as “perhaps the greatest miracle worker in Church history.” The miracles were directly tied to the Holy Face Devotion and were no doubt instrumental in helping to show its credibility prior to approval for the whole world by Pope Leo XIII.

⁵ Sister Mary St. Peter, *Life of Sister Mary St. Peter Carmelite of Tours*,

is to praise the Holy Name and Majesty of God and to make reparation for modern affronts against the first three commandments.⁶ According to Christ, “these offenses wound His Heart more than all others”⁷ and “renew the injuries to His Face,”⁸ “which is the emblem of the Godhead Itself.”⁹ Moreover, Christ revealed this devotion as the sole means of appeasing His Father¹⁰ as well as “the greatest consolation to the Sacred and [Immaculate] Hearts.”¹¹

Our Lord desires, in fact, that “the Heart of His Mother should have the honor of giving this Work of Reparation to His kingdom, as a new pledge of mercy, in that it is so necessary and fraught with so much glory for God.”¹² He specifies that “the Sacred Heart and that of His Mother should never be separated.”¹³ Additionally, “to praise and bless the Name of the Father, with the wounded Face of Christ as object of adoration in so doing, is to honor His Sacred and the [Immaculate] Hearts.”¹⁴ Moreover, all who would engage in the Reparation to the Holy Face are asked to salute the Holy Virgin as “Our Lady of the Holy Name of God.”¹⁵ Finally, and likewise relating to Mary’s role in the work of reparation, the

pp. 121, 149, 244.

⁶ Ibid., pp. 153, 194, 309, 406.

⁷ Ibid., pp. 127, 311.

⁸ Ibid., pp. 238, 253.

⁹ Ibid., p. 243.

¹⁰ Ibid., pp. 256, 290.

¹¹ Ibid., pp. 124, 130, 153.

¹² Ibid., p. 327.

¹³ Ibid., p. 119.

¹⁴ Ibid., p. 130. Sister St. Pierre likely did not refer to the Heart of the Blessed Virgin as the “Immaculate Heart” in that the dogma of the Immaculate Conception was not declared until 1854, six years after her death.

¹⁵ Ibid., p. 333.

Holy Face Chaplet, which is a most efficacious tool of spiritual warfare to defeat Communism,¹⁶ includes saying the Glory Be seven times in honor of the Seven Last Words of Christ, *as well as* the Seven Sorrows of Mary.

Combating Communism is a main thrust of this devotion, especially with regard to offenses against the first three commandments, for which man is called by Christ to make reparation—those concerning idolatry, blasphemy, and irreverence. Indeed, Communism is anti-human, anti-family, and anti-God, for it strikes at the very image of God in man, corroding human dignity by destroying freedom and individual rights, undermining the nuclear family, and stamping out religion—most expressly, Catholicism. It is, in fact, largely responsible for producing more Catholic martyrs since the nineteenth century than all previous centuries combined.¹⁷ Its explicitly atheistic and blasphemous foundation makes it an unprecedented affront to the Majesty of God.

Tragically, Communist thought has infiltrated almost every aspect of our modern cultural and political world—as well as, quite arguably, the Catholic Church itself.¹⁸ Its “less brutal”

¹⁶ Abbe Janvier, *Manual of the Archconfraternity of the Holy Face* (Tours: Oratory of the Holy Face, 1887), pp. 233-34. The chaplet was composed by Sister St. Pierre to obtain from God, by means of the merits of the suffering Face of His well-beloved Son, the triumph of Holy Mother Church and the defeat of her enemies.

¹⁷ George Weigel, *The Fragility of Order: Catholic Reflections on Turbulent Times* (San Francisco: Ignatius, 2018), p. 47.

¹⁸ Various popes have expressed concern for this purported infiltration: Pope Leo XIII after his vision of 1884 in which Satan was given permission by God to attempt to destroy the Church (and which consequently led him to compose the Saint Michael Prayer); Pope

forms of gradual corrosion from within are manifested under the guise of moral relativism, which has given birth to today's woke-ism and critical (race) theory. The “grandmother” of these ideologies is modernism, “the synthesis of all heresies,” according to Pope Saint Pius X. He warns of its “atheism and the annihilation of all religion” by way of ruin from within.¹⁹ These philosophies deny natural law and the transcendence of God in lieu of man making himself a “god,” deciding his own “truth” and “morality,” and even “reality.” Capitalizing upon the techniques of modernism, Communism—when not outright “destroying” God, the family, and man—sets out to annihilate all things enduring from within, especially Catholicism.

Indeed, one may argue that the Church is to Christ as Communism is to the antichrist.²⁰ Christ revealed that “offenses against the Godhead as represented by the Holy Face are offenses against the ‘Face of the Church,’ or her doctrine,”²¹ such that “all the blasphemy endured by the Church

Saint Pius X in his 1907 *Pascendi Dominici Gregis* in which he warns of modernists who “put their designs for her ruin into operation not from without but from within”; and Pope Saint Paul VI who stated in 1972 that the smoke of Satan had entered the Church, perhaps referring to “anti-communism documents of Vatican II not being published.” Paul Kengor, *The Devil and Karl Marx* (Gastonia: TAN, 2020), pp. 142–43. There is also the well-known testimony of Bella Dodd, former communist, who spoke extensively of the infiltration of Church by Soviet agents and *The Memoirs of the Communist Infiltration into the Church* by Marie Carre, etc.

¹⁹ Pope Pius X, encyclical *Pascendi Dominici Gregis* (September 8, 1907).

²⁰ This argument was alluded to by Venerable Fulton Sheen, among others, in his labeling the USSR “the most anti-Christ nation on the face of the earth,” linking Communism with the antichrist.

²¹ Sister Mary St. Peter, *Life of Sister Mary St. Peter Carmelite of Tours*, pp. 244–46.

are as renewed wounds to the Countenance of Christ.”²² In the Holy Face Devotion, Christ requests that the “brothers of Christ” participate in an explicit, modern means to counter the death and dark of the “comrades in the antichrist,”²³ restoring life and light to the masses, and reviving the Face of Christ in man. God calls modern man to combat Communism with the Holy Face, and engage himself in the spiritual warfare of the age, for according to Christ, “in no other time has iniquity reached such a degree.”²⁴

Consequently, Father Lawrence Carney’s goal in writing *The Secret of the Holy Face* is to form a spiritual army to defeat Communism—evil elitism in all its forms—using methods prescribed by God Himself in the revelations surrounding the Devotion to the Holy Face. He offers the Archconfraternity of the Holy Face²⁵ as the supernatural armament

²² Ibid.

²³ Terms “brothers in Christ” and “comrades in the antichrist” are borrowed from Venerable Fulton Sheen.

²⁴ Sister Mary St. Peter, *Life of Sister Mary St. Peter Carmelite of Tours*, p. 159.

²⁵ There is no age requirement to join the Archconfraternity of the Holy Face; one must be Catholic. The registration can be found online, filled out, and sent to the Oratoire de la Sainte Face in Tours, France. If there is a local confraternity, enroll with them. There are six conditions:

¹ To be inscribed on the register of the Oratory of the Holy Face;

² To receive the rule, with the certificate of admission;

³ Everyday recite, for the intentions of the archconfraternity, in Latin or English, a *Pater Noster*, *Ave Maria*, *Gloria*, and the invocation: *Domine ostende Faciem tuam et salve erimus* (“Lord show us Thy Face, and we shall be saved”);

⁴ To wear a little effigy of the Holy Face, either on a cross, medal, or scapular;

⁵ To assist, as much as possible, at the monthly meetings;

⁶ To propagate to the utmost of your power the devotion to the suffering Face of Our Lord.