

Second Vatican Council

- 4 sessions in the autumns: 1962 – 1965
- 2,400 bishops, 500 periti, 200 observers
- 16 distinct statements:
 - 4 Constitutions
 - 3 Declarations
 - 9 Decrees
- Called by Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli (Pope John XXIII: elected Oct, 1958)

Background on Documents

Texts must be read in context of history

Hiroshima

Auschwitz

- 1) Threat of nuclear annihilation (Cuban Missile Crisis)
- 2) Holocaust (1962)

Lasting changes

- 1) The Church's worldview changed
- 2) The Church's politics changed
- 3) The Church's exclusivity changed
- 4) The Church's idea of truth changed
- 5) The Church's relation to Scripture changed

The Opposition

Card. Alfredo Ottaviani (Head of The Holy Office...now called Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith)

Opposition began with first document *Sancrosanctum Concilium*

- 1) Language (vernacular)
- 2) Role of national bishops conferences on regulating the liturgy for native country
- 3) Tension between unity and diversity

DOCUMENTS

I. *Sancrosanctum Concilium* (Sacred Liturgy)

Prepared: Ferdinando Antonelli (Secty. of Liturgy Committee)

5 Guiding Points

- 1) protect the rich liturgy of the church throughout history
- 2) give general guidelines for reform
- 3) must be based on Church doctrine
- 4) to inspire clergy with deeper liturgical spirit
- 5) promote more active participation by laity

Major Points

- 1) vernacular language
- 2) noble simplicity of liturgy
- 3) priest behind altar and facing people
- 4) laity taught to chant responses and learn prayers of the Mass
- 5) prayers of the faithful restored
- 6) composers instructed to write music that invites full participation
- 7) laity should sing the parts of the Mass Ordinary (in Latin)
- 8) "Beyond these norms, it is a matter for the competent local church authority"

Vote: Pro: 2,147 Con: 4

Promulgated: 12/04/63

II. Dei Verbum (Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation)

Opposition: God did not reveal himself through history

Major Points

- 1) identified and refuted heresies
- 2) God reveals himself through many ways and deeds
- 3) The Biblical revelation is of (about) God, but is not a revelation from God
- 4) Condemnation of Mormons, et al, religions who teach that Scripture was succeeded by another prophet

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- 6) Scripture is inspired and inerrant

Vote: Pro: 2,344 Con: 6

Promulgated: 11/18/65

III. Lumen Gentium (Dogmatic Constitution on the Church)

Opposition: Triumphalism (belief that Church overlooks its flaws); Clericalism (hierarchy with Pope at top and priests at bottom); and Juridicism: obsessionism with rules

Major Points

- 1) reinstate permanent deacon and open to married men
- 2) recognition of sacramental nature of episcopal ordination
- 3) affirmation of episcopal collegiality (relation of bishops to Bishop of Rome)

Vote: Pro: 2,344 Con: 5

Promulgated: 11/21/64

IV. Gaudium et Spes (Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World)

Called for dialogue between the Catholic Church

Called for dialogue between other Christians

Called for dialogue between people of the modern world

Major Points

- 1) Dignity of human life
- 2) Role of the individual in the Church and the world
- 3) 3rd World suffering
- 4) International peace

5) The poor
Vote: Pro: 2,307 Con: 75
Promulgated: 12/07/65

DECLARATIONS

I. Dignitatis Humanae (Declaration on Religious Freedom)

Major Points

- 1) Church support for the protection of religious freedom
- 2) The key dispute between the Church and the Traditional Movement led by Archbp. Marcel Lefebvre (still a contentious point)

Vote: Pro: 2,308 Con: 70
Promulgated: 12/07/65

II. Nostrae Aetate (Declaration on the Church's relation to Non-Christian religions)

Major Points

- 1) Catholic Church's relation to Jews. (The Covenant between the Jews and God is viable, permanent, and unbreakable)
- 2) Esteem for Muslims who worship one God
- 3) Revere for the work of God within all religious faiths
- 4) Strong support for Pope John XIII who had already removed the term "perfidious Jews" from the Good Friday Prayers

Vote: Pro: 2,221 Con: 88
Promulgated: 10/28/65

III. Gravissimum Educationis (Declaration on Christian Education)

Major Points

- 1) Right of all people to an education
- 2) Religious education and the benefit of Catholic schools
- 3) Parents as primary educators

Vote: Pro: 2,290 Con: 35
Promulgated: 10/28/65

DECREES

I. Inter Mirifica (Decree on the Media and Social Communication)

Media and Mass Communication

Vote: 1st vote: Pro: 1,598 Con: 503
2nd vote: Pro: 1,960 Con: 164

Promulgated: 12/04/63

II. Unitatis Redintegratio (Ecumenism)

Major Points

- 1) Unity of Christians
- 2) Does not demand a return to the Catholic Church, but commonalities and dialogue

Vote: Pro: 2,137 Con: 11

Promulgated: 11/21/64

III. Orientalium Ecclesiarum (The Eastern Church)

Major Points

- 1) Right of Eastern Church to keep its own liturgy while in full communion with Rome
- 2) Recognition of Eastern Patriarch but primacy of Rome
- 3) Infant baptism fully recognized

Vote: Pro: 2,110 Con: 39

Promulgated: 11/21/64

IV. Christus Dominus (Pastoral Office of Bishop)

Major Points

- 1) Preference of strong bishops who set the standard for church authority in their own bishoprics
- 2) Requirement of election of bishop from ordained clergy

Vote: Pro: 2,319 Con: 2

Promulgated: 10/28/65

V. Optatum Totus (Priestly Training)

Opposition marked by: severe drop in vocations in US; sexual revolution in the US mid-to late 1960s; backlash over Encyclical Letter by Pope Paul VI, Humanae Vitae

Major Points

- 1) reaffirm rule of celibacy
- 2) reaffirmation of minimum requirements for seminary training
- 3) demanded certain curricula be taught in seminaries

Vote: Pro: 2,318 Con: 3

Promulgated: 10/28/65

VI. Perfectas Caritatis (Adaptations and Renewal of Religious Life)

Major Points

- 1) Affirmation and criticism of specific Orders and Institutions
- 2) approval of experimentation with changes in traditions, habits, and Life Rules

Vote: Pro: 2,321 Con: 4

Promulgated: 10/28/65

VII. Apostolicam Actuositatem (Apostolate of the Laity)

Major Points

- 1) Guide for laity in Christian service

Vote: Pro: 2,340 Con: 2

Promulgated: 11/18/65

VIII. Presbyterorum Ordinis (Ministry and Life of Priests)

Vote: Pro: 2,390 Con: 4

Promulgated: 12/07/65

IX. Ad Gentes (Mission activity of the Church throughout the world)

Vote: Pro: 2,394 Con: 5

Promulgated: 11/18/65

Papacy: John XXIII 11/28/1958 – 06/03/1963 (between 1st and 2nd Sessions)

Paul VI 06/21/1963 – 08/06/1978

The Roman Missal of Paul VI (1969)

Significant Changes

- 1) Incorporated the change instituted by Pope Pius XII that reinstated the Paschal Vigil and Holy Week Rites
- 2) “devout and active participation on the part of the Faithful”
- 3) “treasures of the Bible be opened up more lavishly”
 - Lectionary and Gospel Book for readings be proportioned into a cycle of 3 years
 - OT and NT readings both be included
 - Acts and NT readings during Easter season
- 4) 3 New Canons added to the Roman Canon for the Eucharistic Prayer
 - I: Roman Canon
 - II: Based on Hippolytus: Apostolic Tradition
 - III: Based on Gallican Rite
 - IV: Based on Byzantine RiteWords of the Lord are unchanged in each Canon to facilitate con-celebration
- 5) Mysterium fidei: (The Mystery of Faith) is added following the Words of the Lord, followed by an acclamation by the faithful
- 6) Homily is added and required for all Sunday Masses
- 7) Common Prayers (Collects) are added
- 8) Prayer of the Faithful is restored
- 9) Confiteor is restored
- 10) The following have been renewed and considerably modified:
 - The Proper of the Seasons
 - The Proper of Saints
 - Ritual Masses
 - Votive Masses
 - Number of prayers increased
 - Responsorial Psalm has been restored and replaced the Gradual
 - Introit and Communion Antiphons have been adapted to be sung by the people
- 11) Apostles’ Creed is an alternative to the Nicene Creed
- 12) The Gospel of John 1: 1-14 is removed from the conclusion of the Mass
- 13) Communion under both kinds are offered to the laity (under limited circumstances)
- 14) Vernacular languages should be more widely implemented, while retaining the use of Latin

The Mass of Paul VI of 1969 is now the Mass of Paul VI and John Paul II