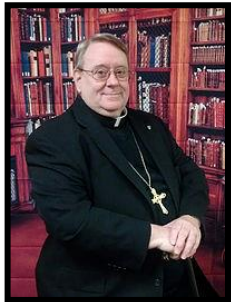


SCHISM REVISITED – REUNION REPUDIATED

TRUST BETRAYED

LOS ANGELES, California

September 2021 was to have been a glorious moment in the history of the *North American Old Roman Catholic Church*. For over eighty years the *North American Old Roman Church (Utrecht*



Succession) a/k/a/ Archdiocese of California which was headquartered in California, had been in a state of schism from the parent body of the *North American Old Roman Catholic Church* which had been organized by

the late Archbishop Carmel Henry Carfora in June 1912 and later re-incorporated in October 1917. On September 29 2020 Archbishop Edward J. Ford, T.O.R. of the *North American Old Roman Catholic Church* and Archbishop Joseph A. Vellone of the *North American Old Roman Catholic Church, Archdiocese of California*, following eighteen months of prayer, fasting and multiple deliberations, had signed an historic Decree of Reunification bringing the two bodies together again into a single *North American Old Roman Catholic Church* while still maintaining two Metropolitan Sees under a single General Synod, a single Constitution and Code of Canon Law and a single Primate and College of Bishops. This Decree would include all of the constituent dioceses of both churches and all of their clergy and laity. The two hierarchs agreed to

set the date for the formal implementation of the Reunion on the First Sunday of Advent November 29, 2020.

Unfortunately, as is often the case when men of lesser character feel threatened by situations that they cannot control and in which their deeds may also be exposed for others to see, they oppose and attempt to scuttle any such attempts that may bring about their own potential demise, and they care little as to what means they need to use to accomplish their malicious goal or who gets hurt in the process. Thus it came to pass that almost immediately such individuals began a campaign of vilification and disruption to prevent any successful reunification that might reveal their own misdeeds and personal agendas for self-aggrandizement.

By Eastertime, with their true characters revealed, their schismatic actions having failed, and their



plots to subvert the reunification and the canonical authority of their own Metropolitan, seven clerics had been removed from the Sacred Ministry: Goddard, Hernandez, Vasquez, Rabusa, Higuera, Bustillo and Logsdon.

By March 2021, when the remaining clergy came together in a Clergy Conference in Las Vegas

together with Archbishops Ford and Vellone, it appeared as if the reunification was well on its way to being a success. Clergy from the *Archdiocese of California*, the *Diocese of San Miguel Arcangel* and the *Diocese of the Infant Jesus* in the Philippines were all in attendance. Archbishop Vellone, who had entered into a hospice situation due to his advancing age and the rapid progression of his debilitating illness,



announced that he was appointing Bishop Ivan Castaneda as his new Coadjutor with the Right of Succession, to replace Chris M Hernandez the former Coadjutor who had been removed from the Sacred Ministry of the *North American Old Roman Catholic Church, Archdiocese of California*.

They say that “..the devil is in the details...” and Satan was not yet done with his attempt to undo the acts of the Church to carry out the Scriptural injunction of Jesus “...that they all may be one...”. Within a matter of months the personal ambitions and lust for power began to emerge in the actions of the new Coadjutor as he feared that he would never experience the total power of authority and jurisdiction that had been held by Archbishop Vellone, and he was determined that whatever it took, he would not lose his grasp of that prize. And thus began the opposition of the Coadjutor together with two of his minions and supporters, Father Thomas Dowling and Mother Fatima Jerez, to any possibility of ceding any presumed authority or jurisdiction to the now reunited *NAORCC*. It mattered not to him if he was in the wrong or if he had misinterpreted the terms of the Reunification, all that was important to him was that he not lose any supposed authority that he wanted for himself. It is a sad thing when such an avaricious compulsion to acquire power drives a person to the extremes of reasonability and prevents them from even discussing things intelligently, but it is even more appalling when

such behavior comes from a cleric who has been designated to lead his clergy and people into the unity of Christ and the Church. In short order, the new Coadjutor and his companions initiated the first steps in their attempt to demolish that Reunification which had been the hallmark of Archbishop Vellone’s final phase of administering his Archdiocese of California.

- *The Origin of the Schism* -

The North American Old Roman Catholic Church was first organized by Carmel Henry Carfora on June 14, 1912 as the National Catholic Diocese in North America and in

1916 it was merged with the *Old Roman Catholic Church* of Bishop de Landas Berghes, and on October 4, 1916 Carmel Henry Carfora was consecrated by Bishop Berghes. On October 17,



1917 the Church was formally incorporated as the *North American Old Roman Catholic Diocese* and in 1919 the name was amended to the *North American Old Roman Catholic Church*.

By 1921 the work of the *NAORCC* had been extended to the west coast and on June 12th of that year Samuel Durlin Benedict was consecrated by Archbishop Carfora to head the work of the new diocese headquartered in Los Angeles, California. On May 7, 1925 Bishop Benedict secretly consecrated George D Quinn without an Apostolic Mandate from Archbishop Carfora. Knowledge of this uncanonical action did not reach the ears of Archbishop Carfora until eighteen months later, at which time Bishop Benedict was deposed from the Sacred Ministry of the *NAORCC*. The work of the church on the west coast all but disappeared. A new attempt was made to coordinate the work of the *NAORCC* on the west coast with the consecration of Charles Alphonse Blanchard in Portland, Oregon on September 21, 1926. However this arrangement also did not succeed, quite possibly due to the

great distance between the Bishop in Oregon and the parishes in California.

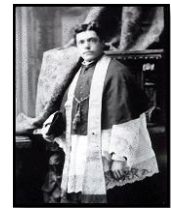
ALBERT DUNSTAN BELL

Enter, Albert Dunstan Bell. Bell had been consecrated by William Henry Francis Brothers on August 25, 1935. Some people have made the claim that he was re-consecrated fifteen months later by Archbishop Carfora, but that is not correct. Rather on November 25, 1936 Archbishop Carfora authorized Bishop Bell to reorganize the work of the *NAORCC* on the west coast and to establish a new diocese to coordinate the work of the church there. Archbishop Carfora licensed Bishop Bell on the basis of his consecration by Bishop Brothers who had been Archbishop Carfora's co-consecrator some twenty years earlier. Bishop Bell used the distance between California where he lived and Chicago where the Primate was located, to his advantage. He kept a wall of separation between the Primate, and his own clergy, faithful and parishes in California, as well as hiding from the Primate some of his notorious actions and behavior. In due time however, the Primate, Archbishop Carfora learned of the actions of Bishop Bell, who had claimed to have been consecrated by Bishop Erwin Kreuzer, the Utrecht Union Bishop of Bonn, Germany (*the said consecration never took place*), and he also learned that both Bishop Kreuzer and Bishop Bell were not only close friends but also comrades together in the Nazi party, and thus he expelled him from the *NAORCC* and removed him from the ministry of the church. Archbishop Carfora was a thorough American patriot and decreed that all parishes and missions of the *NAORCC* were required to fly the American flag within their sanctuaries, and if in Canada, the Canadian flag instead. Bishop Bell led the few remaining parishes of the *NAORCC* on the west coast into schism from the Primate's jurisdiction, and thus began the eighty year schism which the *North American Old Roman Catholic Church, Archdiocese of California* became the heir to. Another cloud loomed over both Bishop Bell as

well as the *NAORCC (Utrecht Succession)* jurisdiction which he had organized. That cloud was the question concerning the validity of Holy Orders...the line of Apostolic Succession. Bishop Bell had been consecrated by Bishop William Henry Francis Brothers, who had been expelled from the Old Roman Catholic Church by Archbishop de Landas Berghes for having attempted to obtain episcopal consecration fraudulently and for not having first been ordained as a Deacon and Priest which is required before a man can be consecrated as a bishop. Bishop Brothers made two unsubstantiated claims to have been ordained to the Priesthood, the first on October 3, 1911 by "Bishop" Jan Francis Tichy who claimed to have been consecrated by Bishop Antoni Kozlowski in October 1905, but no proof has ever been found to authenticate these claims of



either man, and the second time on April 20, 1913, by Archbishop Joseph Rene Vilatte, again, without any documentation to substantiate this claim either. Bishop Brothers attempted to then justify his "uncanonical" consecration based upon a dubious theological position known as the "per saltum" theory of Orders.



The "per saltum" Theory of Orders



Holy Mother Church requires that any candidate for the Sacred Priesthood or the Episcopate must have first been validly Baptized and Confirmed, and must have passed through and been ordained in proper sequence, to the various Minor and Major Orders without the omission of any. Also that the proper

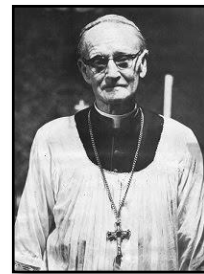
intervals or “interstices” must be observed to allow the candidate to exercise the power or duties of each of these lower orders before proceeding to the higher order. Holy Orders fittingly complements the perfections of grace and the gifts of the Holy Ghost already received in the other Sacraments. Each order is thus to be received in its proper sequence and no intermediate order omitted “per saltum”. The claim of the “per saltum” theory is that the power of each of the lower orders is automatically included in the higher order, and that thus a man who is ordained to the priesthood without passing through the lower orders, also receives by his ordination to the Priesthood, the power and privileges of the Diaconate, the Subdiaconate and all of the Minor Orders. Obviously the Church has not approved of this process nor condoned the procedure of ordination “per saltum”. Thus we are left with the serious question as to whether or not a man consecrated to the Episcopate without having first been ordained Deacon and Priest is truly to be considered a validly consecrated Bishop in the Catholic Church. And by extension, can any bishops who trace their own line of Apostolic Succession to a “bishop” relying on the “per saltum” theory of Orders truly consider their own orders absolutely valid? This is a serious problem for the clergy of the *North American Old Roman Catholic Church, Archdiocese of California*.

The “Heritage” of the NAORCC (US)

The lineage of Apostolic Succession within the *North American Old Roman Catholic Church, Archdiocese of California* is but one aspect of the troubling “heritage” of that jurisdiction. Let us take a glance at some of the more conspicuous aspects of that “heritage”.

We can begin with Archbishop William Henry Francis Brothers. He was born on April 7, 1887 in England where he was raised as a Roman Catholic. He moved with his family to the United States where they settled in the area of Waukegan, Illinois. Enthralled by the dozen or so

grand monasteries which surrounded the area, young William dreamed of one day becoming Abbot of such a monastery of his own. At the age of 21 he joined the *American Congregation of the Order of St Benedict*, founded by Dom Augustine de Angelis (Bernard) Harding, OSB in Waukegan



and Fond du Lac. He then proceeded to place himself under “Bishop” Tichy of the *Old Catholic Church* and again later placed himself under obedience to Bishop Grafton of the *Protestant Episcopal Church*. When his days

with the *Episcopal Church* were completed he then sought out Archbishop Joseph Rene Vilatte of the *Orthodox Church*. Finally he aligned himself with Bishop de Landas Berghes of the *Old Roman Catholic Church*. Once Bishop de Landas Berghes learned of his duplicity, Bishop Brothers was expelled from the *Old Roman Catholic Church* and he went his way to found his own Old Catholic jurisdiction, until in 1963 when he joined the *Russian Orthodox Church* as a Mitred Archpriest. In 1967 he left the *Russian Orthodox Church* and entered the *Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Exile* until 1969 when he left them to re-organize his own *Old Catholic Church*. Thus the source for the Orders of the *North American Old Roman Catholic Church, Archdiocese of California* leaves a long history of instability and a mixed identity of Catholic - Protestant - Episcopal - Old Catholic - Russian Orthodox - Ukrainian Orthodox and many and varied theologies and practices. He was followed in the line of Apostolic Succession by Bishop Albert Dunstan Bell whose brief but impactful time with the *NAORCC* we have already explored.

After Bishop Bell had been expelled from the *NAORCC* by Archbishop Carfora he continued for a time to lead the parishes of the diocese into schism and to set up and continue a wall of separation in communication and jurisdictional authority between them and the Primatial See in

Chicago. However, he was not the type to stick around and finish the work he had begun. Shortly thereafter he abandoned the clergy and parishes of the west coast and began a new and fully independent work of his own, the *Ancient Universal Church*, without any connection to the NAORCC or those parishes he had formerly been the bishop of. Before doing so however, he consecrated two men who would each have a role to play in the future of the nascent *North American Old Roman Catholic Church Archdiocese of California*, namely: Edgar Ramon Verostek and Frederick Littler Pyman.

EDGAR RAMON VEROSTEK

Edgar Ramon Verostek became the successor to



Albert Dunstan Bell as the Bishop of the now schismatical churches on the west coast. He was a colorful

character to be sure with a very eclectic ecclesiastical background. He was born on April 22, 1909 and was first ordained in 1936 as a minister in the *Divine Science Church*. The *Church of Divine Science* was an integral founding organization of what is known as the *New Thought Movement*. It is closely related to the *Christian Science Church*, the *Religious Science Movement* and the *Unity Church* movements.

Without any proper Seminary or Theological training, Verostek was “re-ordained”, this time as a priest, by Albert Dunstan Bell, formerly of the NAORCC, on March 9, 1940, having been previously “consecrated” on January 7, 1940 by Adrian Alan Abraham Hughes of the *Old Catholic Church in America*, an offshoot of the church found by William Henry Francis Brothers. On the same day on which he was “re-ordained” by Bell, he was also “consecrated” by him as the new “bishop” of what would soon come to be

known as the *North American Old Roman Catholic Church (Utrecht Succession)*. Under Verostek’s leadership, the former churches of the Carfora NAORCC which were now in schism, went their own separate ways and ultimately changed their corporate and ecclesiastical title to what it is today, the *North American Old Roman Catholic Church (Utrecht Succession) Archdiocese of California*. It would appear that Bishop Verostek was either unconvinced of the validity of his consecration by Bell, with good reason, or that it simply was not good enough or sufficient enough for him, because on December 7, 1941 he was “consecrated” by Lowell Paul Wadle of the *American Catholic Church*, a Theosophical, not a truly Christian Church. It appears from various church records that Verostek also “consecrated” Wadle on the same day, December 7, 1941. This was likely performed in a so-called “exchange of consecrations” which is not only uncanonical but also absolutely invalid. There is no indication as to who “consecrated” whom first at this event. This however was not the only such “exchange of consecrations” in which Verostek would be involved. The next took place on September 10, 1944 with Antoine Joseph Aneed of the *Byzantine Universal (Catholic) Church of the Americas* assisted by Lowell Paul Wadle. On January 12, 1969 Verostek was again “consecrated”, this time by Dennis Lucey of the *Order of Antioch and St Thomas Christians (Jacobite Sect)*. In the course of time, Edgar Ramon Verostek consecrated Antoine Joseph Aneed, Lawrence A Carter, Ernest Caswell, Paul G W Schultz, Lowell Paul Wadle all having either a Theosophical or Protestant affiliation and background.

Finally on January 31, 1985 Edgar Ramon Verostek consecrated Joseph Andrew Vellone as his successor and as the third head of the *North American Old Roman Catholic Church Archdiocese of California*, having previously ordained him as a priest on January 31, 1974. Archbishop Vellone is the first and only leader of the NAORCC Archdiocese of California with

formal Catholic training and background in Catholic theology and sacramental practice, having been educated as a member of the Salesian Fathers in New Jersey where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1959 and his Bachelor in Philosophy degree in 1962.

Thus the *North American Old Roman Catholic Church Archdiocese of California*, has a long history of affiliation and cooperation with, if not “sacramentally” connected to such non-Christian practices and beliefs as: Theosophy; Spiritism; Necromancy; Divine, Christian and Religious Science; the Unity Church; New Age and New Thought beliefs; and basic Protestant theology and administration. In addition, as a result of its schism from the *NAORCC* of Archbishop Carfora, and consistent with its independent and schismatic leadership under Bell and Verostek, the *NAORCC Archdiocese of California* has functioned for the past eighty years without any actual canonical structure, lacking a Constitution or Canons. It was led and governed by two clerics with no Catholic training, knowledge or regard for Canons or canonical structure. It was governed by the individual thoughts, ideas and whims of its leaders. As we shall soon see, this is not the only “inheritance” within the *NAORCC Archdiocese of California*.

FREDERICK LITTLER PYMAN

Frederick Littler Pyman is another name found associated with the *NAORCC* on the west coast.



He was originally consecrated by Albert Dunstan Bell but soon left Bell’s jurisdiction due to Bell’s membership in the Nazi party. After Bell’s expulsion from the *NAORCC* by Archbishop Carfora and his leading many of the remaining parishes on the west coast out of the *NAORCC*, Archbishop Carfora turned to Frederick Pyman and consecrated him in San Jose on August 24, 1943 and charged him with reorganizing the churches on the west coast into a new diocese to be known

as the *Western Regionary Diocese*. Unbeknownst to Archbishop Carfora, Pyman was and remained a member of the *Protestant Orthodox Western Church* founded in 1938 by Wilhelm Waterstraat. In 1940 upon the death of Waterstraat, Pyman succeeded him as the head of his church. Pyman made many statements of supposed loyalty and affiliation with Archbishop Carfora, but his profession of fidelity was at best half-hearted. He left Archbishop Carfora’s jurisdiction and the *North American Old Roman Catholic Church* in 1948, and taking several churches with him he changed the name of the jurisdiction to the *Evangelical Orthodox (Catholic) Church in America (Non-Papal Catholic)*. The Confessional Statement he adopted for his new church clearly indicates the nature of his theology...it was the *Leipsic Interim* of 1548, a Lutheran document, clearly NOT a Catholic statement of Faith. On July 21, 1947 Pyman was consecrated by Lowell Paul Wadle, and on January 12, 1969 he was consecrated by Dennis Lucey at the same time and during the same ceremony at which Edgar Ramon Verostek was consecrated. By the time of his death, Pyman had again changed the name of his church, this time to the *Universal Episcopal Church in America*. Thus we have another apparent non-Catholic prelate wielding influence over the parishes of the *NAORCC* on the west coast.

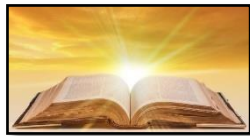
Schism Revisited – Reunion Repudiated

The months between the end of the Clergy Conference in Las Vegas, March 2021 and August 2021, saw the foundations being laid in the heart of San Francisco for the ultimate act of schism to take place and to pull the *NAORCC Archdiocese of California* out of any formal relationship with the *NAORCC*. Plans were hatched under the guise of holding a “synod” to strengthen and affirm the reunion of the two jurisdictions as a single *NAORCC*, to be held in Los Angeles, California at the end of September 2021. The highlight of the event was to have been the Consecration of Bishop-Elect Daniel G Ralan as the new Auxiliary Bishop for the

Diocese of The Infant Jesus, to be held on September 29, 2021, the first anniversary of the signing of the Decree of Reunification. This Consecration was to be the first sacramental act of the newly reunited church involving bishops from the various dioceses of the *NAORCC*. Unbeknownst to the other participants, the newly appointed Coadjutor of the Archdiocese of California had other plans. He coordinated with his co-conspirators, Father Dowling and Mother Fatima to hijack the agenda of the proposed Synod and to advance the consecration of Bishop-elect Ralan by a month, so that they would be able to prevent the Primate's presence at the Consecration and that he could personally seize and secure total control of the Consecration Service, proclaiming falsely that the Primate was already on a Pastoral visit to Poland for the Consecration of a new Bishop there. It was to be predicated on the pressing need to expedite the consecration due to the allegedly rapid deterioration of Archbishop Vellone's physical health and condition, and who it was said, was too frail to be able to tolerate the long journey to Los Angeles, or even to persevere until the end of September. And thus the consecration took place on August 21, 2021 in Las Vegas where Archbishop Castaneda led the supposedly frail and "failing" Archbishop Vellone all around the Sanctuary for the Consecration, directing him what to read and where to sit; and where the Coadjutor replaced the Apostolic Mandate issued by the Primate for one of his own creation which he issued in the name of Archbishop Vellone; and where he also replaced the historic and traditional Oath of Fidelity to be pronounced by the Bishop-Elect, an Oath found in and taken from the traditional *Pontifical Romanum* of the Catholic Church, and used for hundreds of years by both Roman Catholic and Old Roman Catholic Bishops, for one of his own creation into which he inserted the names of himself, Archbishop Vellone and Bishop Madanguit, thus turning the oath into an oath of personal obedience to the named prelates, rather than an oath of fidelity to the Catholic Church itself.

The Conspirators, having succeeded in their first step of the plan to undermine the original agenda of the "synod" now turned their attentions to the "synod" itself. And there their true plans became evident to all. They first cast their aspersions upon the Reunion itself and then upon the Primate and upon all who were sympathetic to or supportive of the idea of reunification with the *NAORCC*. It was their intention to "re-write" history and the Decree of Reunification and to turn it into a simple Decree of Intercommunion. When it began to become clear to them that not everyone was on board with their plan to derail the "synod" agenda, they began to issue threats, first to not attend the "synod" themselves if the Primate was going to attend, and then when that did not appear to be working, to hold their own "rump synod" simultaneously with the Official Synod which had already been called. They began to put pressure upon Archbishop Vellone to convince him to repudiate his agreement to the Reunion of the Church and threatened him that if he did not do so, then his entire jurisdiction would abandon him and set up their own church jurisdiction without him. Archbishop Vellone's health condition continued to worsen even to this very day, but of far more importance to him is and has been the spiritual condition of both his own immortal soul and the condition of his Church and jurisdiction. Believing the threats of the Coadjutor to be true, he began to waver and to consider the proposal to re-define the reunion in terms of a simple intercommunion. The conspirators then turned their attention to the other clergy of the Archdiocese. When it became evident that many of the clergy of the Archdiocese intended for the Primate to attend the Synod as originally planned, Archbishop Castaneda and his associates issued not only threats to boycott the Synod and hold their own "rump synod", but they also threatened any clergy who did attend the Official Synod and not the "rump synod" of Archbishop Castaneda, would summarily be excommunicated from the Church. It did not matter to him that he did not have the power or authority to either issue such threats or to carry them out, but rather the rage

and vitriol spewing forth from him had taken over total control of his mental and “spiritual” faculties leaving him in the state of an ecclesiastical madman. Ultimately his threats worked only on one segment of the Archdiocese, that being the Filipino Diocese of the Infant Jesus. An unknown fact that was revealed only in the final two weeks prior to the Synod’s commencement, was that a promise of episcopal consecration had been made to another Filipino priest who would now direct his energies to fulfilling the Coadjutors plans. It now clearly appeared to be a “quid pro quo” arrangement. I wonder if either of these individuals remember or even care about the passage from the Gospel of St Matthew: *“For what doth it profit a man, if he*



gain the whole world, and suffer the loss of his own soul? Or what exchange shall a man give for his soul?” [St Matthew 16: 26-28]

The days arrived for the Synod to begin. Bishop Rosas of the Diocese of San Miguel Arcangel, the host for the Synod, who had previously arranged for the travel of Archbishop Vellone to Los Angeles, sent one of his priests, Father Jonathan Villaneda to accompany and assist Archbishop Vellone from his home in Las Vegas to the airport and then onboard the plane for his trip to Los Angeles. Arriving at the airport Archbishop Vellone was met by an official delegation from San Miguel Arcangel, from the Official Synod delegates and from the Archdiocese of California as well as also a contingent of dissident clergy from Archbishop Castaneda’s entourage. Archbishop Vellone was taken by van to the Cathedral Church of San Miguel, the site for the Synod, much to the consternation of Archbishop Castaneda and company. Upon arriving at the Cathedral, Archbishop Vellone was met and greeted with music, song, a with a hearty and warm welcome as well as with a candle to place upon the main altar and flowers to be laid upon the altar of Our Blessed Lady of Guadalupe. It was clear that the Archbishop was well pleased

with the reception he had received. However not all was to remain calm and blessed. Archbishop Castaneda upon seeing the Primate in the Church flew into a new rage and refused to even come into the Church but instead returned to and remained in the van fuming. Archbishop Vellone then stepped into the courtyard of the Cathedral where a reception was to be held for all of the clergy and lay delegates to the Synod. While standing there and speaking peacefully with Bishop Rosas, a heated discussion arose when the Archbishop requested that his suitcase containing his vestments be brought into the Cathedral where he intended to leave them for the consecration of Bishop-Elect Sanchez of Mexico, scheduled for the following day with the Archbishop as the principal consecrator. Archbishop Castaneda refused to allow the luggage to be removed from the van and demanded that Archbishop Vellone return to the van and proceed to the hotel instead. Archbishop Vellone became agitated and began to wave his hands directing that his luggage be brought to him immediately. As Bishop Rosas began to lead Archbishop Vellone to his seat at the table for the reception dinner, without warning or provocation, out of the clear blue, Mother Fatima slapped Bishop Rosas as if he were a recalcitrant child and began to chide him as such. The Archbishop was stunned and taken aback and was unable to speak at that moment. With the incessant prodding of Mother Fatima and with the assistance of Msgr Rey Maglente of the Diocese of the Infant Jesus, (*the same cleric who had been promised episcopal consecration by Archbishop Castaneda*), Archbishop Vellone was quickly ushered, though somewhat feeble and his gait unsteady, out of the precincts of the Cathedral property and up the street and around the corner to the van, where there was awaiting him, Archbishop Castaneda and company. Archbishop Vellone left San Miguel Cathedral fully intending to return the next day for the Consecration of Bishop-Elect Sanchez, saying that he would see everyone the following day. That was the last time he was seen at the Cathedral. It was obvious to all that he was in essence “forcibly detained”

and prevented from returning to the Cathedral and to his flock gathered there, by Archbishop Castaneda and his conspiratorial henchmen and henchwoman.

Trust Betrayed

The two hierarchs agreed to designate September 29, 2020, the Feast of St Michael the Archangel, Defender of the Church, as the day on which the Decree of Reunification would be signed. Unfortunately due to the many Covid-19 travel restrictions and the fragility of Archbishop Vellone's health status at the time, they agreed to sign the Decree separately in their own homes, witnessed by two persons each. Archbishop Ford signed the decree first on September 25, 2020 in his home in Springvale, Maine and then sent the signed document to Father Raphael Villareal in Houston, Texas, who in turn had agreed to hand-deliver the same to Archbishop Vellone at his home in Las Vegas to obtain his signature. As the Covid-19 restrictions had increased in that time, and the Archbishop's health had suffered a temporary setback, the signing of the decree by Archbishop Vellone actually occurred three and a half weeks later in the presence of two witness on October 21, 2020 at his home in Las Vegas. The great emphasis that the two Archbishops placed upon this historic agreement can be seen in the wording of the Attestation paragraph found on the signature page of the agreement. As can be seen in the attached picture of the signature page, it bears the signature of both Archbishops and their witnesses (two for each Archbishop). It reads:

“Attestation:

I, the undersigned Archbishop, being of disposing mind and memory, bearing in mind the full weight and importance of what I have agreed herein, and knowing that I must stand before the Face and Throne of Almighty God to

give an account of these my action, do hereby certify that I am entirely free of all coercion, influence or enticement, and that I have acted freely and with full liberty, in compliance with the Sacred Canons of the North American Old Roman Catholic Church and in virtue of my pastoral office as the sole, official and canonical representative of my jurisdiction, and I do hereby decree that this is my true and legal signature, and it is affixed hereto under the eyes and witness of Almighty God, the Supreme and Ultimate Shepherd and Judge of all men. So help me God, and these His Holy Gospels, which I touch with my hand.”

Both Archbishops placed such a Faith and Trust in Almighty God and in each other that they sealed this agreement with a Solemn Oath to God asking Him to bear witness to the truth and import of their agreement and actions, as well as to their signatures and oaths. Thus, in addition to the two Archbishops and their earthly witnesses, Almighty God Himself was the most important Witness to this historic agreement as each of the Archbishops laid their hands on the Sacred Gospels as they pronounced the words of the Oath.

Over the course of the previous year and a half the two hierarchs had developed a fast friendship and respect for each other and had pledged their undying loyalty to each other, to the NAORCC and to the Sacred Ministry of the Church over which they had been placed as Guardians of the Faith, Tradition and Practice. Thus it came as a serious blow when, due to the pressure placed upon Archbishop Vellone by Archbishop Castaneda and his associates, that Archbishop Vellone felt compelled to succumb to those pressures and to repudiate the Reunion itself, to violate his Sacred Oath, to retract his solemn word and in the process to shatter into pieces the friendship with the Primate, which he so recently had professed to be solid, enduring and indestructible. In effect, the Solemn Trust pledged and witnessed by man and God was now ultimately betrayed.

13. Membership on any and all of the Standing Committees and Commissions of the Primate of Nova Terra will be drawn from Nova Terra or on the Synodical Council of the Primate of Nova Terra will be drawn from clergy of all of the dioceses of the North American Old Roman Catholic Church.
14. All parishes, clergy and faithful from all of the dioceses of the North American Old Roman Catholic Church will be represented at all General Synods and Special Synods of the Primate of Nova Terra with equal status and rights as stated in the Constitution and Canons of the North American Old Roman Catholic Church.

Attestation:

I, the undersigned Archbishop, being of disposing mind and memory, bearing in mind the full weight and importance of what I have agreed herein, and knowing that I must stand before the Face and Throne of Almighty God to give an account of these my actions, do hereby certify that I am entirely free of all coercion, influence or enticement, and that I have acted freely and with full liberty, in compliance with the Sacred Canons of the North American Old Roman Catholic Church and in virtue of my pastoral office as the sole, official and canonical representative of my jurisdiction, and I do hereby decree that this is my true and legal signature, and it is affixed hereto under the eyes and witness of Almighty God, the Supreme and Ultimate Shepherd and Judge of all men. So help me God, and these His Holy Gospels, which I touch with my hand.

Alfonso Castaneda _____ Date 25 Sept 2020
 Archbishop of Nova Terra (NAORCC-Nova Terra)
Joseph A. Vellone _____ Date 10/21/2020
 Archbishop Joseph A. Vellone (NAORCC-Archdiocese of California)

Witness:

In witness hereof we affix our hand:

John P. Hill _____ Date Sept 25, 2020
Edward Vellone _____ Date 25th Sept 2020
 _____ Date 21 Oct 2020
 _____ Date 21 January 2020

San Miguel Cathedral

On the afternoon of September 28th Archbishop Vellone arrived in Los Angeles for the Synod. Bishop Rosas of the Diocese of San Miguel, who was hosting the Synod, had sent one of his priest, Father Jonathan Villaneda to accompany Archbishop Vellone from his residence in Las Vegas to the airport and to assist him and to accompany him on the flight to Los Angeles and from there to the Cathedral. Upon arriving in Los Angeles Archbishop Vellone was greeted by a delegation from the Cathedral and also by members of Archbishop Castaneda’s entourage. Archbishop Vellone was to go to the Cathedral for a proper reception for his visit, but Archbishop Castaneda was livid at the very thought of it. Nonetheless Archbishop Vellone did in fact arrive at the Cathedral where he was formally received in traditional Hispanic style with music, song, a candle to place on the main altar and a large arrangement of flowers to be laid on the altar of our Blessed Lady of Guadalupe. It was apparent that the Archbishop was

overwhelmed at this enthusiastic reception. Archbishop Castaneda refused to even enter the Cathedral when he viewed the primate inside. Rather he stormed back to the van in a huff and sat there for a few minutes before directing the driver to take him away from the Church and park around the corner. Archbishop Vellone then proceeded to the Cathedral courtyard where he engaged in a discussion with Bishop Rosas. At some point in the discussion Archbishop Vellone directed that his luggage be brought to him from the van. When Archbishop Castaneda refused to comply with the Archbishop’s request a heated discussion ensued and a disgusting act then took place to the great consternation of all assembled in the courtyard who witnessed it.

Other Personalities Involved



Father Thomas Dowling is a priest of the Archdiocese of California and a close associate of Archbishop Castaneda. He was also one of the co-conspirators in the effort to repudiate the Reunification of the *North American Old Roman Catholic Church*. Father Dowling already had a checkered history in the *North American Old Roman Catholic Church Archdiocese of California* and with Archbishop Vellone. He had been previously suspended by Archbishop Vellone from the exercise of priestly ministry for performing a series of “Gay Marriages” contrary to the Faith of the Catholic Church and the sacramental practice of the *North American Old Roman Catholic Church*. He was intent upon preventing the Reunification from taking effect because he did not want his history to become public knowledge. Unfortunately for him his acts of performing “Gay Marriages” is already publically known, as can be seen via this link:

<https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Ffusionmoments.com%2F2016%2F09%2Fhalf-moon-bay-wedding->

[videographer%2F&data=04%7C01%7C%7C42c939b1b71b4518b24908d98902826f%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637691466136619882%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sddata=pJZgBm1fQqJpPmAHbne7HoQZGe%2B2%2FOu3DM5EzZFIg2o%3D&rserved=0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=939b1b71b4518b24908d98902826f%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637691466136619882%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sddata=pJZgBm1fQqJpPmAHbne7HoQZGe%2B2%2FOu3DM5EzZFIg2o%3D&rserved=0)



Mother Fatima Jerez is a woman of the Archdiocese of California and a member of Archbishop Castaneda's parish of The Good Shepherd in San Francisco who identifies herself as a Religious Sister. She, along with Archbishop

Castaneda, was also one of the co-conspirators to undermine the reunification of the Church and to impede the proceedings of the Official Synod in Los Angeles September 28-30, 2021. While we do not intend to question her religious commitment as a Sister, we are left with more questions than answers. When asked as to what Religious Order or Congregation she belonged to, Archbishop Vellone replied that she belonged to her own Order. No answer or reply was received when asked what Rule or Religious Tradition she followed or what vows she had taken or who had received those vows. All Religious men and women live according to one of the Rules which have been approved by the Church, such as the Benedictine, Franciscan, Augustinian, Dominican, Vincentian, etc. They also normally take vows of poverty, Chastity and Obedience or the older monastic vows of Obedience, Stability and Conversion of Life, which are publically received by a designated prelate in the Name of the Church. They first profess temporary vows customarily for a period of between three to nine years and then perpetual vows for life. Nothing is known about the Rule, Vows or Prayer Life of Mother Fatima.

She also seems to have a difficulty in holding herself in check when provoked, as was evident in the courtyard of the Cathedral of San Miguel on the evening of September 28th. At that time Mother Fatima was accompanying Archbishop Vellone at the Cathedral. The Archbishop had requested that his luggage which contained his vestments be brought from the van into the church where he intended to leave them for use the following day for the Consecration of Bishop-Elect Sanchez. When Archbishop Castaneda refused to allow the luggage to be removed from the van and brought into the Church, Archbishop Vellone got agitated and started to wave his hands demanding that the luggage be brought to him. Bishop Rosas attempted to defuse the tension by leading Archbishop Vellone to the table for the beginning of the Delegates' Dinner Reception when out of the clear blue and without any provocation, Mother Fatima slapped Bishop Rosas as if he were a recalcitrant child, hard enough that the sound of the slap could be heard by all throughout the courtyard, and she began to chide him like a disobedient student. Archbishop Vellone was shocked and dumbstruck at the time, not understanding what had just happened. Mother Fatima, assisted by Msgr Rey Maglente quickly ushered the Archbishop out of the courtyard, despite his physical instability and labored gait, and led him up the street and around the block, to where the van was waiting for him with Archbishop Castaneda and company. Archbishop Vellone left the Cathedral precincts with the words that he would see everyone the next day for the Consecration of Bishop-Elect Sanchez. That was the last time Archbishop Vellone was seen at the Cathedral as it appears that he was forcibly detained by Archbishop Castaneda and prevented from returning to the Cathedral and to his flock gathered there awaiting him.



Bishop Jose Madanguit is the Bishop of the *Diocese of the Infant Jesus* in the Philippines. He was a minor player in the scenario that played out in Los

Angeles on September 28-30, 2021. It appears that he and the other Filipino clergy of the Diocese of the Infant Jesus decided to cast their lot with the entourage of Archbishop Castaneda and company in a misplaced sense of obedience to Archbishop Vellone, not fully understanding that the Archbishop himself was being manipulated and controlled by outside forces against which he could not withstand.



Bishop Daniel G. Ranalan is the newly consecrated Auxiliary Bishop of the *Diocese of the Infant Jesus*. Apart from deciding to join his bishop with the Castaneda faction in the scandalous proceedings on September 28-30 2021 his primary role appears to have been the driver of the van that helped to spirit Archbishop Vellone from the Cathedral of San Miguel to the hotel where the Archbishop was staying and not bringing him back the next day for the Consecration of Bishop-Elect Sanchez.



Msgr Rey B. Maglente is a priest of the *Diocese of the Infant Jesus* and the Superior General of the Missionary Congregation of the Infant Jesus, and is resident in Canada. Msgr Maglente has been a behind the scenes player in the whole scenario as it has unfolded. He has played both sides against the middle throughout the process, first appearing sympathetic and concerned as to the entire range of problems plaguing the *NAORCC Archdiocese of California* as it went through the problems first within the Philippines, then in the USA with Goddard, Hernandez, Vasquez, Rabusa, Higuera, and Bustillo as they fomented discord and schism; then with his clearly stated concerns about the validity of the Holy Orders within the *NAORCC Archdiocese of California*, and then ultimately with the strife arising within the *NAORCC Archdiocese of California* under Archbishop Castaneda's direction. However as

soon as things appeared to be moving in a more beneficial direction of a for the Filipino clergy, a distinct change began to surface with the good Father. It most noticeably improved once he was nominated as an Auxiliary Bishop for the Filipino *Diocese of The Infant Jesus* and assured of his consecration by Archbishop Castaneda. So apparent can his ambition be recognized, that it is clearly visible in recent photographs of him already wearing the purple shirt and pectoral cross of a bishop, even before his consecration has taken place and when even the three actual bishops in the photograph are not wearing either the purple shirt or a pectoral cross to which they are entitled as actual bishops. In the picture you can see Msgr Maglente clearly in a bishop's purple shirt and pectoral cross, while the bishops [left to right] Auxiliary Bishop Ranalan, Archbishop Vellone, Bishop Madanguit are clearly not wearing either a purple shirt or a pectoral cross....a raw, obvious and ostentatious display of personal ambition and ecclesiastical presumption and arrogance.



Conclusion

It is quite apparent that the *North American Old Roman Catholic Church Archdiocese of California* has a long history of poor ecclesiastical leadership and administration as well as problems with their line of Apostolic Succession and the practice and praxis of the Catholic Faith. Only during the administration of Archbishop Vellone has there been any attempt to bring true Catholic Order and practice into the jurisdiction, though it has most likely been too

little - too late. The decision to reunite the *North American Old Roman Catholic Church Archdiocese of California* of Archbishop Vellone to the original Primatial See of the *North American Old Roman Catholic Church* under Archbishop Ford was seen as the best way to bring about the necessary changes to restore the jurisdiction to the Faith and Tradition of the original *NAORCC* of Archbishop Carfora and to give her the canonical foundations of a Constitution and Code of Canon Law which she has been without for the past eighty years. It has sadly now become very clear to all that such a goal is not going to proceed as originally planned. Archbishop Vellone under the influence and control of Archbishop Castaneda and his cronies, has now repudiated the Reunion which he signed in good faith with Almighty God as his witness, has broken his word, and betrayed the trust he pledged to God and to the Primate. Only the Clergy and Faithful of the Diocese of San Miguel Arcangel has decided to remain faithful to the Decree of Reunification with the original *NAORCC* of Archbishop Carfora. Thus the following conclusions must be accepted as fact.

1. *The North American Old Roman Catholic Church Archdiocese of California* is now once again in a state of **formal schism** from the *North American Old Roman Catholic Church*.
2. As a result of her state of schism, the *North American Old Roman Catholic Church Archdiocese of California* is not a constituent part of the original *North American Old Roman Catholic Church* established by Archbishop Carfora.
3. Inasmuch as none of the clergy of the original mission of the *NAORCC* of Archbishop Carfora located on the west coast are still alive and none of the parishes or missions of the work begun by Archbishop Carfora on the west coast continue to exist, then the *North American Old Roman Catholic Church Archdiocese of California* has no legitimate claim to the use of the name

North American Old Roman Catholic Church in any context or in combination with any other words or terms.

4. Inasmuch as the Orders of the *North American Old Roman Catholic Church Archdiocese of California* do not emanate from Archbishop Carfora but rather from Archbishop Brothers through the “pseudo-bishop” Albert Dunstan Bell, the *North American Old Roman Catholic Church Archdiocese of California* has no legitimate claim to be considered an Old Roman Catholic Church jurisdiction derived from or descended from Archbishop Carfora in any way whatsoever.
5. Inasmuch as the Orders of the *North American Old Roman Catholic Church Archdiocese of California* are derived from Archbishop Brothers whose own orders are considered questionable due to the irregularities surrounding his ordination and consecration, as well as his acts of deception, and in addition to his claim to “ordination per saltum”, these Orders must be considered to be at best dubious in validity and most likely invalid.
6. Inasmuch as the act of schism is a canonical crime according to the Code of Canon Law and the tradition of the universal church from the earliest days of the Apostolic Fathers, all of the participating clergy of the *North American Old Roman Catholic Church Archdiocese of California*, regardless of rank, are placed under a canonical censure of “**excommunication ipso facto**”, to be reserved in a most special way to the Primate of the Church (*Canon 2314*).
7. For the canonical crime of laying violent hands upon a bishop of the Church, a censure of “**excommunication ipso facto**” reserved in a special way to the Primate of the Church is laid upon Mother Fatima Jerez. (*Canon 2343*).

8. For the issuance of laws, precepts or orders violating the rights and freedom of the Church, the canonical censure of ***“Excommunication ipso facto”*** reserved in a special manner to the Primate of the Church is placed upon Archbishop Castaneda. (*Canon 2334*).

It must be clearly understood that an act of schism and the imposition of canonical censures does not remove the offending cleric or religious from the jurisdiction of the Church but rather only inhibits the valid and lawful administration of jurisdiction or sacramental acts by them. They are still considered to be disobedient and recalcitrant members of the Church and fully subject to her authority and to the penalties imposed according to the Code of Canon Law, whether they recognize or accept the fact or not. The Church in her Code of Canon Law does not recognize the right of any said clergy or religious to exempt themselves from canonical authority for any reason whatsoever. To transfer themselves from one canonical authority to another a formal process is outlined in the Canons and must be followed exactly to have any validity whatsoever. Thus the dissident clergy and religious of the *North American Old Roman Catholic Church Archdiocese of California* who have chosen to follow the lead and directives of Archbishop Castaneda and his associates have incurred the canonical penalties outlined herein.

It is our sincere hope that, recognizing the full import of their actions and with a sense of contrition and remorse, those said clerics will seek forgiveness, absolution and the lifting of the excommunications and censures they have incurred. This is our prayer and hope for the sake of their own immortal souls and the good and benefit of the Church and her faithful.

LAUS TIBI CHRISTE

COMPARISON

The Consecration of Bishop Sanchez
at the Official Synod in Los Angeles,
Location: San Miguel Arcangel Cathedral



*Properly Vested Clergy According to Catholic Tradition
for Solemn Mass*

- or -

Participants of the “rump synod” under
Archbishop Castaneda
Location: UNKNOWN



Modern Stoles Thrown Over Street Clothes for Mass