

# Did You Know?

## Vatican II Did Not Condemn Traditional Catholics or the Traditional Mass:

Traditional rites to be preserved:	Latin Language:	Gregorian Chant:	Pipe Organ:
<p><b>Second Vatican Council:</b> "Finally, in faithful obedience to tradition, the sacred Council declares that <i>Holy Mother Church holds all lawfully recognized rites to be of equal right and dignity; that she wishes to preserve them in the future and to foster them in every way.</i>" (Second Vatican Council, Sacrosanctum Concilium, The constitution on the sacred liturgy, December 4, 1963, emphasis added)</p>	<p><b>Second Vatican Council:</b> "The <i>use of the Latin language</i>, with due respect to particular law, <b>is to be preserved in the Latin rites.</b>" (Second Vatican Council, Sacrosanctum Concilium, The constitution on the sacred liturgy, December 4, 1963, emphasis added)</p>	<p><b>Second Vatican Council:</b> "The Church recognizes <i>Gregorian chant</i> as being specially suited to the Roman liturgy. Therefore, other things being equal, it <b>should be given pride of place in liturgical services.</b>" (Second Vatican Council, Sacrosanctum Concilium, The constitution on the sacred liturgy, December 4, 1963, emphasis added)</p>	<p><b>Second Vatican Council:</b> "The <i>pipe organ is to be held in high esteem in the Latin Church</i>, for it is the traditional musical instrument, the sound of which can add a wonderful splendor to the Church's ceremonies and powerfully lifts up men's minds to God and higher things." (Second Vatican Council, Sacrosanctum Concilium, The constitution on the sacred liturgy, December 4, 1963, emphasis added)</p>

## Nor Did Vatican II Order Changes Such As:

Mass Facing the People:	Communion in the hand:	Communion under both species:	Female Altar Servers:
<p>Regarding the turning around of the altar (which was <i>not</i> mandated by Vatican II): <b>"...a common turning to the east [the traditional position, wherein the priest and the people face eastward, and not each other]...remains essential. This is not a case of something accidental, but of what is essential.</b> Looking at the priest has no importance. What matters is looking together at the Lord." (<b>Cardinal Ratzinger, future Pope Benedict XVI</b>, emphasis added)</p>	<p><b>This practice was <u>not</u> mandated by Vatican II - it came about as a result of <u>disobedience</u> to the Holy See.</b></p> <p>"Wherever I go in the whole world, the thing that makes me the saddest is watching people receive Communion in the hand." (<b>Mother Teresa</b>)</p>	<p><b>This practice was <u>not</u> mandated by Vatican II - it came about as a result of <u>disobedience</u> to the Holy See.</b></p> <p>"If any one saith, that the holy Catholic Church was not induced, by just causes and reasons, to communicate, under the species of bread only, laymen, and also clerics when not consecrating; let him be anathema." (<b>Council of Trent</b>)</p> <p>"Therefore, since this custom [Communion under one species] was introduced for good reasons by the church and holy fathers, and has been observed for a very long time, it should be held as a law which nobody may repudiate or alter at will... Those who stubbornly assert the opposite of the aforesaid are [considered heretics]...This holy synod also decrees and declares, regarding this matter, that instructions are to be sent to the most reverend fathers and lords in Christ, patriarchs, primates, archbishops, bishops, and their vicars in spirituals, wherever they may be, in which they are to be commissioned and ordered on the authority of this sacred council and under pain of excommunication, to punish effectively those who err against this decree." (<b>Council of Constance</b>)</p>	<p><b>This practice was <u>not</u> mandated by Vatican II. Pope John Paul II had specifically rejected the notion of female altar servers.</b></p> <p><b>"Women are not, however, permitted to act as altar servers."</b> (Inaestimabile Donum, Approved and Confirmed by His Holiness <b>Pope John Paul II</b>)</p>

## Nor Can the Second Vatican Council Trump the Bible:

<p><b>St. Paul, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit:</b> "But any woman who prays or prophesies with her head unveiled brings shame upon her head, for it is one and the same thing as if she had had her head shaved. For if a woman does not have her head veiled, she may as well have her hair cut off. But if it is shameful for a woman to have her hair cut off or her head shaved, then she should wear a veil. A man, on the other hand, should not cover his head, because he is the image and glory of God, but woman is the glory of man. For man did not come from woman, but woman from man; nor was man created for woman, but woman for man; <b>for this reason a woman should have a sign of authority on her head, because of the angels.</b>" (1 Cor. 11:5-10, emphasis added)</p>	<p><b>St. Paul, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit:</b> "...As in all the churches of the holy ones, women should keep silent in the churches, for they are not allowed to speak, but should be subordinate, as even the law says. But if they want to learn anything, they should ask their husbands at home. <b>For it is improper for a woman to speak in the church.... what I am writing to you is a commandment of the Lord.</b>" (1 Cor. 14:33-37, emphasis added)</p>
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**Vatican II NEVER prohibited the celebration of the Traditional Latin Mass; the Traditional Latin Mass was granted to Catholics *in perpetuity*. In fact, by order of the Pope, Bishops are supposed to offer it to those who seek it. Ask your Bishop for this incomparable Mass today!**

"It is good to recall here what Cardinal Newman observed, *that the Church, throughout her history, has never abolished or forbidden orthodox liturgical forms. [To do so] would be quite alien to the Spirit of the Church.* An orthodox liturgy [is] one which expresses the true faith.... The authority of the Church has the power to define and limit the use of such rites in different historical situations, but *she never just purely and simply forbids them!* Thus the [Second Vatican] Council ordered a reform of the liturgical books, but it did not prohibit the use of the previous books." (Cardinal Ratzinger, future Pope Benedict XVI, emphasis added)

Far from being disobedient, the Pope called the desire for the Traditional Mass a "rightful aspiration": "To all those Catholic faithful who feel attached to some previous liturgical and disciplinary forms of the Latin tradition I wish to manifest my will to facilitate their ecclesial communion by means of the necessary measures to guarantee respect for their *rightful aspirations*. In this matter I ask for the support of the bishops and of all those engaged in the pastoral ministry in the Church...moreover, respect must everywhere be shown for the feelings of all those who are attached to the Latin liturgical tradition, by a wide and generous application of the directives already issued some time ago by the Apostolic See for the use of the Roman Missal according to the typical edition of 1962." (Pope John Paul II, Ecclesia Dei, emphasis added)

"I am of the opinion, to be sure, that the old rite should be granted much more generously to all those who desire it. It is impossible to see what could be dangerous or unacceptable about that. A community is calling its very being into question when it suddenly declares that what until now was its holiest and highest possession is strictly forbidden and when it makes the longing for it seem downright indecent." (Cardinal Ratzinger, future Pope Benedict XVI, emphasis added)

Pope St. Pius V has given a so-called 'Perpetual Indult' for the Traditional Mass: "Let all everywhere adopt and observe what has been handed down by the Holy Roman Church, the Mother and Teacher of the other churches, *and let Masses not be sung or read according to any other formula than that of this [Traditional, the so-called 'Tridentine'] Missal published by Us. This ordinance applies henceforth, now, and forever, throughout all the provinces of the Christian world...* This Missal is to be used by all churches, even by those which in their authorization are made exempt, whether by Apostolic indult, custom, or privilege, or even if by oath or official confirmation of the Holy See, or have their rights and faculties guaranteed to them by any other manner whatsoever... *whereas, by this present Constitution, which will be valid henceforth, now, and forever, We order and enjoin that nothing must be added to Our recently published Missal, nothing omitted from it, nor anything whatsoever be changed within it under the penalty of Our displeasure...* Furthermore, by these presents [this law], in virtue of Our Apostolic authority, *We grant and concede in perpetuity that, for the chanting or reading of the Mass in any church whatsoever, this Missal is hereafter to be followed absolutely, without any scruple of conscience or fear of incurring any penalty, judgment, or censure, and may freely and lawfully be used.* Nor are superiors, administrators, canons, chaplains, and other secular priests, or religious, of whatever title designated, obliged to celebrate the Mass otherwise than as enjoined by Us. We likewise declare and ordain that no one whosoever is forced or coerced to alter this Missal, and *that this present document cannot be revoked or modified, but remain always valid and retain its full force...* Therefore, no one whosoever is permitted to alter this notice of Our permission, statute, ordinance, command, precept, grant, indult, declaration, will, decree, and prohibition. Should [anyone venture to do so, let him] know that he will incur the wrath of Almighty God and of the Blessed Apostles Peter and Paul." (Pope St. Pius V, Quo Primum, emphasis added)

**Don't be deceived or spread myths. Come home to the traditional, *highly reverent*, Latin ("Tridentine") Mass today. If it's not available, contact your Bishop.**

***"Even if Catholics faithful to Tradition are reduced to a handful, they are the ones who are the true Church of Jesus Christ." (Saint Athanasius)***