

The Second Vatican Ecumenical Council Session 2

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www.DeaconsView.com



The Hall

- 2500 square meters
- 2905 places
 - 102 cardinals
 - 7 patriarchs
 - 26 general secretary staff
 - 2440 Council fathers
 - 200 theologians
 - 130 observers
- John XXIII took a personal hand in this
- Scripture was central, honored daily



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DES	SUFFR.	COGNOMEN ET NOMEN	MUN. DIOECESIS



POSTE VATICANE L.20
DUM UNIVERSA ECCLESIA DE
CONCILII OEC. VATICANI II ERIT
GRATES OED AGENTES AB IMMACULATA
LIBERRIMOS ADPRAGANTUR FRUCTUS



PAULUS VI P.M. PACIS NUNTIUS
POSTE VATICANE L.20

PLACET

NON PLACET

PLACET IUXTA MODUM

--SUBSIGNATIO--



8 DIC. 1965
POSTE VATICANE

	S.E. KEMPF WILHELM	VRLIMBURG	14.09.65
DES	SUFFR.	COGNOMEN ET NOMEN	MUN. DIOECESIS



PAULUS VI MISSIONARIUS APOSTOLICUS
POSTE VATICANE L.15



PAULUS VI MISSIONARIUS APOSTOLICUS
POSTE VATICANE L.15

PLACET

NON PLACET

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14 SETT. 1965
POSTE VATICANE

The Hall

- 3 First Aid stations
- Catering for 3000 per day – coffee & pastries
- Sanitary facilities – 22 lavatories
- High security measures
 - The basilica remained open for liturgy
 - Fear of spies
 - During sessions, the Hall was closed with 46 guards
 - Checks were run constantly for intruders
 - At 2 PM daily the basilica opened to the public



The Bishop's Work

- Immense, nearly impossible task
- 70 schemas – all in Latin
- 2000 pages of material
 - The Curia tried to swamp the boat
 - Many schemas became chapters
 - Some were unsuitable in the first place
- Solitude, isolation before the beginning
- Credentials hard to get

The Bishops

- They were “herded like cattle” from one office to the next
- Not welcomed in Rome
- This quickly drove them to each other
 - Both for housing
 - As well as work

The Bishops

- Many had never met each other before
- Many had never been to Rome!
- 800 bishops of color, mainly from poor nations
 - Appointed under Pius
 - The Curia then never thought these would be the ones directing the Church

The Bishops

- Much to learn
 - Progress on Biblical Studies
 - Liturgical renewal already underway
 - New trust in theologians meant they could now read (legally) items heretofore banned
 - A pastoral climate was emerging
 - Conversion to deeper intimacy with Christ
 - John's Opening Speech

Outcomes

- Vatican II changed no authentic traditions
- And it changed no doctrines
- It condemned no one and no group
- And it welcomed all Christians and Jews into dialogue

Outcomes

- Major changes in liturgy
 - More than in any other single period of church history
 - Added Resurrection to the theology of Trent – the Paschal Mystery
 - Restored Liturgy of the Word
 - Piety centered on liturgy & scripture rather than the personal devotional life

Outcomes

- **Baptism**
 - Initiation
 - Essential sacerdotal sacrament
 - Not “baptized Catholic” but baptized into Christ
 - Unbaptized not excluded

Outcomes

- Revelation
 - What is revealed is not doctrine
 - But the very person of God
 - God's very own self in the person of Christ
 - Christ is servant and liberator
 - Lover of the poor and victims of war

Outcomes

- War
 - One of the only negative statements of the Council
 - Despite strong opposition from first world bishops (such as the Americans)
 - Registered serious reservations about deterrence
 - Addressed to all persons of good will
 - Not merely to Catholics

Outcomes

- Religious Liberty
 - Declared that people have the right to free assembly and association
 - Even if not Catholic
 - Raised the primacy of conscience
 - Making their own moral judgments
 - Taking into consideration the teachings of the Church

Outcomes

- Marriage
 - Dual purpose survived
 - Mutual love of the couple
 - Procreation of children
- Laity
 - Priesthood of all believers
 - Holiness
 - Sensus fidelium

Outcomes

- Bishops
 - A bit muddy here
 - But collegiality as a theory did survive
 - Even if not written into the structures of the church
 - Post-conciliar developments, however, show the continuing strength of “the center” over the periphery
 - Servant leaders

Outcomes

- **Seminaries**
 - Adjusted the curriculum for the first time since post-Trent
 - Added courses in Scripture, pastoral theology, psychology
 - Called seminarians and priests to holiness
 - But failed to address the needs of the modern priesthood

Outcomes

- Jews
 - Condemned anti-Semitism
 - Stopped just short of using the term “deicide” when declaring that the Jews living today are not responsible for the death of JC
- Ecumenism
 - Allowed Catholics to dialogue and pray with other faith traditions

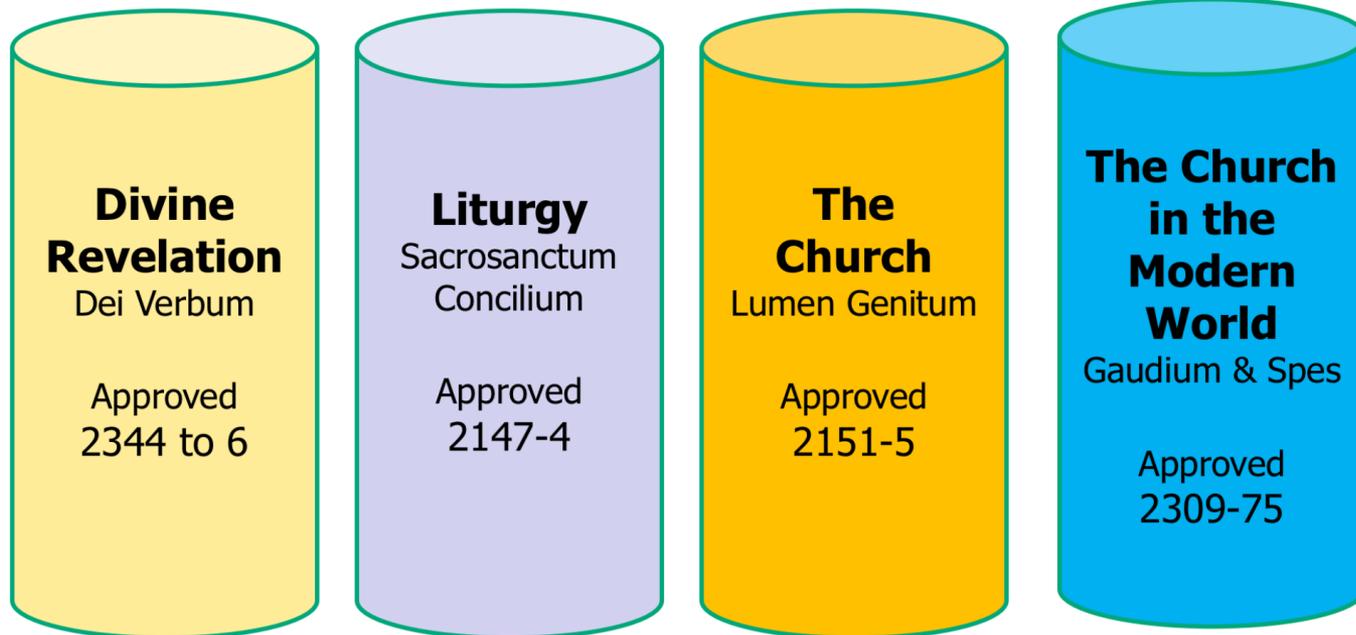
Outcomes

- Signs of the Times
 - Unprecedented and unpredicted willingness to become modern
 - Especially in light of the long 19th Century
 - Recognize the more evolutionary nature of human progress
 - Rather than “static” or unchanging
 - Saw itself as being within the modern world

The Outcomes of Vatican II



The Outcomes of Vatican II



Divine Revelation

- Dogmatic Constitution - Dei Verbum
- Vote: 2344-6
- God wants us to know God fully!
- God reveals the inner life of the divine to us, communicating to us God's own self
 - This revelation is complete in Christ
 - But what the Gospel demands of us...

Divine Revelation

- Over time, there is growth in our understanding of what God desires (#8)
 - This growth in understanding is expressed in our Sacred Tradition
- So, Tradition and Scripture have a very close connection and flow from the same divine well
- Our response to God's revelation is Faith expressed in everyday life

Revelation for Catholics

Another key turning point

- It is complete in Christ
- And it is found in the Scriptures
- Which are authored by humans but inspired by God
- But all that the Gospel demands of us is still being revealed
- God is still speaking
- This is on-going and developing Tradition
- It is expressed in church teachings and the *sensus fidelium*

Sacred Liturgy

- Constitution - Sacrosanctum Concilium
- Vote: 2147-4
- First major document debated & passed
- Restored the liturgy to *1st Century rites*
- Established baptism and Eucharist with primacy among the sacraments (#6)
- Says Liturgy is “source and summit” (#10)

Sacred Liturgy

- The full, active, conscious participation of all the faithful is aim before all others (#11)
- Not enough to simply follow the “letter of the law” making sure we are correct and proper... (#11)
- Re-established liturgical seasons
- Removed elements that “are out of harmony with the inner nature of the liturgy” (#21)

Liturgy Continued

- Allowed for use of vernacular if local bishops allowed it
- Declared that the Liturgy of the Word and of the Eucharist are not static objects to be adored, but an ACT
- Connected the action of the liturgy to the care of the whole Body of Christ: "This is my BODY."
- Restored the Catechumenate (#64)

The Church

- Dogmatic Constitution - Lumen Gentium
- Vote: 2151-5
- The Church is in Christ; it is a sacrament of Christ, a mystery of depth... (#1)
- It is the Body of Christ (#3,7)
- It is the People of God, among whom the baptized are called as ministers (Ch 2)

The Church

- It is led by the bishops, bound as a college, in unity with the pope, in a bond of charity and peace (Ch 3)
 - Priests seen as helpers to bishops in #28
 - Diaconate restored in # 29
- The role of the lay people is to be church in the world, without dualism
- The call to holiness is universal, and the way to holiness is love

The Church

- Religious live as dedicated members
- We are part of the great “communion of saints” bound together in God’s love
- The Blessed Virgin Mary takes her place, too, among God’s people and all devotion to her must ultimately lead to Christ the Lord

Church in Today's World

- Pastoral Constitution - Gaudium et spes
- Vote: 2309-75
- Human persons are dignified with God's own voice echoing in their depths
- We have an inborn hunger for God
- All people share this, and it can lead us to global community

Church in Today's World

- Humans live with growing interdependence
- We all share in the common good
- Religion and everyday life are tightly linked
- Problems of special urgency:
 - Households of Faith
 - Development of Culture
 - Economics
 - Politics
 - War and peace

Ecumenism

- Decree - Unitatis Redintegratio
- Vote: 2137-11
- Major move forward after centuries without it
- Seeks “restoration of ties” not “return to Rome”
- Admits blame for separation was on both sides

Ecumenism

- Calls for a change of heart to make ecumenism possible
- Sees other Christians as brother & sister churches
- Says Eucharistic sharing may be necessary for the grace of ecumenism to be present (#8)
- Calls the Roman church to reform

Non-Christians

- Declaration - Nostra Aetate
- The Relationship of the Church to Non-Christians
- Earth-shaking for its day
- Says that the truth can be found “outside the Body of Christ” and is to be respected wherever it’s found

Non-Christians

- Says the church wants dialogue and charity with all others
- Says the Jews are not guilty of “deicide”
 - They are loved by God
 - They are God’s chosen people -and God does not go back on a choice
 - Every form of persecution and prejudice is to be eradicated

Religious Freedom

- Declaration - Dignitatis Humanae
- Vote: 2308-70
- Most controversial - argued from first session to last
- Written by John Courtney Murray
- Repeats argument for the development of doctrine

Religious Freedom

- Says that no one should be forced to join the Church
- Defends the right of the Church to do its work
- But also defends all other Churches
- Some feared that “Roman influence” would be lost because of this openness to others

Social Communications

- Decree - Inter Mirifica
- Vote: 1960-164
- Relatively weak, poorly received
- Tone is condescending
- Seen as out of touch with overall work of the Council

Eastern Catholic Churches

- Decree - *Orientalium Ecclesiarum*
- Vote: 2110-39
- Minor document overall since the Eastern churches were in the room
- Did not deal with the Eastern churches which are not in union with Rome

Bishop's Pastoral Office

- Decree - Christus Dominus
- Vote: 2319-2
- Follow up document to chapter on bishops in document on The Church
- Gives job description for bishops
- Calls bishops "servant leaders"
- Defined collegiality

Priestly Formation

- Decree - Optatam Totius
- Vote: 2318-3
- Changed seminary training manuals in use since Trent in 16th Century
- Added courses in Scripture, history, pastoral counseling and personal formation

Priestly formation

- Allowed for local guidelines rather than world-wide norms for seminaries
- The American bishops really pushed for this.
- A starter document which needed much post-conciliar development

Apostolate of the Laity

- Decree - *Apostolicam Actuositatem*
- Vote: 2305-2
- Restored baptism as the essential “sacerdotal” sacrament - priestly people
- Prior thought: that laity shared in the vocation of the ordained
- Establishes idea of “Domestic Church”

Life & Ministry of Priests

- Decree - Presbyterorum Ordinis
- Vote: 2390-4
- Last minute document -- failed to renew the priesthood
- Reaffirmed celibacy for Latin Rite but cannot say it is required "by the nature of the priesthood itself"

Life of Priests

- The Eastern churches were sitting in the room - and they have a married clergy
- Ends up calling celibacy “suitable”
- A bit muddy in terms of influence because a synod was decided, for 1970, so many agreed to postpone their concerns

Missionary Activity

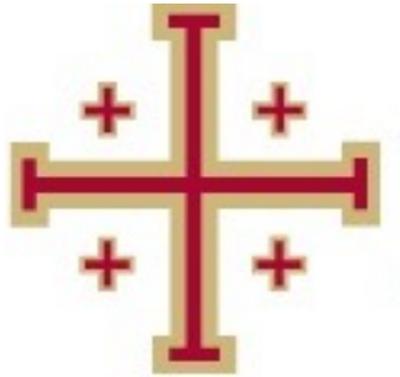
- Decree - Ad Gentes
- Vote: 2394-5
- Allows for retaining local customs and incorporating them into Catholic worship
- Reduces competition in mission lands
- Calls the whole church to be missionary

Renewal of Religious Life

- Decree - Perfectae Caritatis
- Vote: 2321-4
- Picked up on renewal already underway in Europe
- Urged religious to return to their founders and then update for the modern times

Christian Education

- Declaration - Gravissimum Educationis
- Vote: 2290-35
- Weak document
- Left most things to post-conciliar work
- Mainly addresses schools



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