

Tridentine Community News

January 9, 2022 – Holy Family

Developing Traditional Catholics into Secular Leaders

An immense amount of good has been done in Catholic circles by those who have achieved success in the secular business world. Prominent examples of such individuals – none of whom regularly attend the Latin Mass – include:

The late Bill Pulte, Sr., founder of Pulte Homes, who quietly and anonymously financed the Angel Fund, a charity which provided food and shelter for the poor. Recently his family purchased the former St. John's Seminary [currently a hotel and conference center] in Plymouth, Michigan from the Archdiocese of Detroit, intending to keep operating it and its chapel.

Tim Busch, founder of Irvine, California's Busch Law Firm, co-owner of Michigan's Busch's Fresh Food Markets, and owner of a number of resort hotels in northern California, founded the Napa Institute, the Napa Legal Institute, and donates to countless Catholic causes nationally. Mr. Busch is the largest donor in history to the Washington, DC's Catholic University of America.

Tom Monaghan, founder of Domino's Pizza, provided start-up financing to the Dominican Sisters of Ann Arbor, founded WDEO-AM and Ave Maria Radio, founded Ave Maria University and Law School, and helped found Christ the King Charismatic Parish on the grounds of his Domino's Farms campus in Ann Arbor, among many other causes. He is also the founder of Legatus, a national organization of Catholic business executives who meet certain minimum requirements for number of employees and annual revenue. Legatus chapters exist in many major cities, including of course metro Detroit.

The Traditional Latin Mass world is conspicuous for its lack of comparably high-profile secular leaders among its visible spokespeople and donors. While a few wealthy supporters do exist here and there, the movement would be more effective in the global Church if it had some prominent advocates who were also known for their secular accomplishments, donating time, talent, and treasure to the cause of Traditional Liturgy, architecture, and sacred music.

Recently this writer met with a business leader in another city who supports various Catholic causes there, though not the Traditional Mass. We discussed the above challenge. He, too, had come to a similar realization with regards to his own Catholic causes of interest. His belief, however, was that this was a supply-chain problem. Rather than waiting for accomplished individuals to join our causes over time, he believes we need to develop secular talent from among our own ranks right now.

He pointed out the work of Alexander Havard, an author and speaker based in, of all places, Moscow, Russia, who is focused in helping Catholics develop secular leadership skills. After all, there is nothing in Catholic teaching which precludes us from striving to become more effective in secular matters, particularly if that will also have the side effect of making us more effective in promoting and supporting our Catholic causes.

Havard operates the Virtuous Leadership Institute, which encourages developing the "virtue of magnanimity", i.e. having big goals and the realistic means to achieve them. [See Havard's "Leadership Pyramid", adjacent.] A notable quote from Havard's 2012 interview with Vatican correspondent Edward Pentin:



"It's much easier to say to God: 'Do the work in me and I just do nothing. But God very often tells us: 'I will not do it because I have already given you talents through nature; you have to discover those things and do it ...Humility is to say: 'I have gifts, I have talents, and they come from God.' You recognize that you have not produced those talents, that they are a gift from him to you. Then magnanimity is to say: 'I have them but I have to make them fructify, I must develop them and multiply them, and put them at the service of the community and the common good. So you see these two things come together. [Talents] are not mine. I have been given them and this is my humility; my magnanimity tells me to multiply them and use them.'"

[Full interview here:

<https://www.newsmax.com/edwardpentin/havard-leadership-magnanimity-humility/2012/12/07/id/466903/>]

In essence, this is the opposite of Orthodox Christian author Rod Dreher's "Benedict Option", which advocates removing oneself from city life and retreating to rural Christian living, not unlike the Amish. If we are truly to live Christ's Great Commission and convert the world, we need to engage in the world, bringing our Catholic principles to it. Imagine how the Latin Mass world might advance if we had our own Tom Monaghans, pushing, funding, and promoting visionary projects.

For more information, visit Havard's site: www.hvli.org. An interesting set of notes for a talk based on Havard's principles may be read here: <https://www.cimastrategic.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/IntroductionToMagnanimityAndHumility.pdf>

Tridentine Masses This Coming Week

Sun. 01/16 10:00 AM: High Mass at *Old St. Mary's* (Second Sunday After Epiphany) – Celebrant: Msgr. Ronald Browne