

On "Benedict's Revolution: The Return of the Old Latin Mass" from John Wentland via Mirabiledictu.

There are more catastrophic events going on in our world than liturgical revisionism so well covered in the fine blog by Tom Woods, Jr. "*Benedict's Revolution: The Return to the Old Latin Mass.*" So forgive this added comment on B16's retro-liturgical changes. But I can't help feeling a sense of deep disappointment bordering on despair seeing this 21st century Benedict bent on undoing what the followers of the earlier Benedict have spearheaded in the 20th century. The news must be causing giants of the Liturgical Movement of the 20th century, like Virgil Michel, the Monsignori Martin Hellriegel, Reynold Hillenbrand, Frederick McManus as well as a whole army of monks of St. John Abbey, Collegeville, and other holy women and men, to roll over in their graves causing a quake that should be felt in the Vatican. An equal army of living women and men today are in harmony with that quaking.

This quake should counteract this seismic shift toward the "Jesus-and-me, priest-doing-magic, monolithic, sanctuary-distant, know-your-place-and-keep-quiet" Liturgical mentality. We thought we'd matured away from that. I fear that the call of the Gospel Jesus to be Eucharist in our world is being snuffed out. The call of Jesus to works of compassion and justice such as we see in the outpouring for Haiti is under threat of being replaced with a devotional service content with praying for the victims of such tragedies; that our "Let Us Build a House" will be replaced with "O Lord, I Am Not Worthy."

Perhaps that living army needs to call upon the spirits of these

departed people to re-establish a new Liturgical Conference and Vernacular Society of America to counteract the growing impact of organizations like "The New Liturgical Movement" [I cringe to even write it!] (*Novus Motus Litugicus* - <http://www.newliturgicalmovement.org/> <<http://www.newliturgicalmovement.org/>> ). There may be others who remember the story from 1964 better than I, many of them participants like me in the Liturgical Conferences in the late 50's and 60's. Msgr. Hillenbrand stood at the podium before the meeting of the Vernacular Society of America, meeting at the same time as the Liturgical Conference. With due decorum and solemnity, he raised his voice and gloriously proclaimed, "I declare this Society disbanded; it's mission is complete." With reinstallation of the Tridentine Mass and replacement of the English at Eucharist using direct translations of the *Missale Romanum* Latin, we may be at a point to pick up the banner again proclaiming, "In our day, Monsignor, forty six years later, perhaps not."