

## CATHOLICISM'S FORMER UNECUMENISM

§1 It is not licit for the faithful by any manner to assist actively or have a part in the sacred [rites] of non-Catholics.

§2 Passive or merely material presence can be tolerated for the sake of honor or civil office, for grave reason approved by the bishop in case of doubt, at the funerals, weddings, and similar solemnities of non-Catholics, provided danger of perversion and scandal is absent (canon 1258, 1917 Code of Canon Law).

Whoever in any manner willingly and knowingly helps in the promulgation of heresy, or who communicates in things divine with heretics against the prescription of canon 1258, is suspected of heresy (canon 2316, 1917 Code).

One who is guilty of prohibited participation in [non-Catholic] religious rites is to be punished with a just penalty (canon 1365, 1983 Code of Canon Law).

The Catholic Church brought out infallible decrees at the Council of Trent condemning all Protestant doctrines and saying that the believers of these doctrines were anathema, that is extremely accursed.

In recent times the Church has stopped calling Protestants heretics and says they are separated brethren. It says they cannot be held to account for the errors and heresies of the reformers. It says then they have been misled and its not their fault. This cannot be reconciled with Trent. The excuse is that truths revealed by God and decreed as true by the Church are not to be identified with the way they are formulated. The truth cannot be changed but the way it is expressed and formulated and put into words can be changed. So they say they are staying true to Trent but are formulating it differently. They are bringing Trent up to date. This is nonsense for words can never be separated from what the persons who made the words and put them together meant by them. In fact the meaning is more important than the words themselves. Trent and the Church of the time never believed in separated brethren but that Protestants were heretics. When it fulminated against Protestantism with its anathemas it meant all Protestants. The leaders of the Reformation were not singled out. Nobody argued at the time of Trent that the leaders led the people astray and it was not the peoples fault and therefore that the people were not heretics but separated brethren.

Since Vatican II, Catholics and Protestants hold prayers in common and attend each other's services. The old rule that it is mortal sin for Catholics to attend Protestant services is now gone though they are still expected to divert their attention if the minister starts challenging Roman dogma.

Ecumenical Councils are infallible in the Roman Catholic Church. Lateran 4 required the execution of heretics. The Church today says it refers to only violent warmongering heretics. Nothing in the decree indicates that the Church is telling the truth. It is just a cover up.

Pope Pius XI in his encyclical *Mortalium Annos* condemned the view that Catholics can pray and have ecumenical relations with other Christians and yet the first pope after his successor reversed this position. John XXIII was this pope. Ecumenism says that all religions are good or at least tolerable. The new Catholic version says this at least of all the one god religions like Anglicanism but holds that the Catholic Church is the one true Church and these religions are Catholic but don't know it. This is the same as saying that the Catholic religion is the best but other religions are okay, they are good enough. This is in practice, the same as declaring that one religion can be as good as another. The Catholic Traditionalists who have separated from Rome over its ecumenism are right to say that that is the sin of indifferentism. Any religion that embraces any form of indifferentism is not Catholic in morals for Christ commanded that the chief duty was to seek converts for the truth. Any religion that does this is not Christian for Christianity preaches uncompromising obedience to doctrinal and moral and every kind of truth (though it does not really live up to it!). Jesus claimed to be the truth and the uncompromising truth for truth is only ruined and threatened if you will settle for semi-truth or half-truth.

In Radio Replies, 1, Question 1089, we read, "Is it a sin for a Catholic to attend weddings in Protestant churches? The law of the Catholic Church forbids participation in a religious service that is not Catholic because it is an implied repudiation of the faith which a Catholic professes to be the only true faith". In the answer to Question 1091, we read concerning attendance at a Protestant service, "Our attendance would sanction to a certain extent their idea that their religion also is as good as our own. But our absence from their Churches gives them food for thought." Attendance is not encouraging a Protestant to look into the Catholic Church to see if it is the true religion.

If Catholicism really is the truth, then anything that confuses is a sin so to attend would be an implied repudiation of the truth of Catholicism.

That rule stirred up a great deal of suspicion and even abhorrence between Catholics and Protestants for it led to Catholic mourners turning abruptly away when a Protestant funeral they were attending reached the Church door. Needlessly insulting a dead person's religion is a strange way of paying one's respects. It is needless for it is one blind faith insulting another. They should have just stayed in the house.

The excuse was that praying with Protestants was tacitly approving of their religious errors. But Rome lets Catholics pray together despite some of them being in error too!

The prejudice expressed in the rule is clearly shown in the fact that Protestants were encouraged to pray during Catholic Masses and ceremonies with the Catholics, this was an admission that the Catholic Church thought there was nothing heretical or wrong in Catholic theology about the two religions uniting in prayer. All this division led to great antagonism and bloodshed in Northern Ireland.

The Church has never apologised for its divisive rules. It does not try to be as divisive any more. But there is still no apology. Thus we see it's current peaceable ways as just a strategy and not a repudiation of its alleged right to cause division.

The Church says we need the sacraments and we are deprived without them and the sacraments are for making you live more holy. This is just a fancy way of saying that the person outside the Church who does good and only good is not as good as the Catholic for the Catholic has the best way to get to God. It makes many see dreadful arrogance and insolence here. The sacraments neither matter or do real good when that is the bottom line. We do not need them on a humanist or religious level. Relations between Catholicism and other religions then are forms of patronising friendship - on Catholicism's part.

BIBLE QUOTATIONS FROM:  
The Amplified Bible

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## THE WWW

[www.ewtn.com/library/SCRIPTUR/LEFEBVRE.TXT](http://www.ewtn.com/library/SCRIPTUR/LEFEBVRE.TXT)

Archbishop Lefebvre and the Declaration on Religious Liberty. This page argues that Vatican II never changed the position of the Church on religious liberty though the Archbishop said it did and contradicted tradition and eventually made his Society of St Pius X break with Rome. The tradition of the Church which is infallible for it has always being taught says that the true Church should be professed by each country. Each country should have the Catholic Church as the state religion.

The Church says the state needs God and must worship God as a state. The Church still rejects the doctrine that every person has the right to believe in whatever religion his reason tells him is true for nobody has the right to be wrong. True nobody has the right to be wrong but nothing can be done about this for everybody has the right to follow reason as they see it as long as they are doing their best. The doctrine of the Church is that error should be suppressed for the common good of the people. For example, if censoring Protestantism would lead to civil war you have to tolerate their error. If Protestants are taking members from the state Church and can be peaceably stopped it is a different story. The Catholic doctrine of religious liberty is that nobody can be forced to believe – that is all.

[www.catholicism.org/pages/summary.htm#inv](http://www.catholicism.org/pages/summary.htm#inv)

Doctrinal Summary by Br Thomas Mary MICM. This page informs us that Catholic teaching is that if you hear of the Catholic Church and don't join it or study it your damnation is guaranteed. It affirms that babies that die without baptism will be banned from Heaven forever.

Can Non-Catholics be Saved?

<http://www.bringyou.to/apologetics/debate9.htm>