

CONSTITUTIONS & COMMUNISTS

Carissimi,

This world we must journey through is aptly called a Valley of Tears. At times the power of the Enemy seems insurmountable. There is a sinister element in the media that revels in that which oppresses our spirit. Governments are riddled with corruption, natural disasters seem to be on the uptick, and there are "wars and rumors of wars." The list goes on and on.

But despite the clouds of doom that seem ever to be gathering over the world, the Light of Christ perennially shines through, like one of those trick birthday candles that, apparently blown out, are never really extinguished.

Two recent events on the world stage have given evidence to the enduring power of Christ:

On January 1st, a new constitution came into force in Hungary. This in itself would not be remarkable did it not contain explicit references to God and Christianity in its preamble. There is more: the Hungarian Constitution declares that life begins at and must be protected from *conception*. Further: marriage is defined as only existing between one man and one woman (who'da thunk?).

There were the expected howls of protest from the socialists in Europe that bottomless pit of rebellion against Nature and Nature's God. How could supposedly enlightened Europeans be so reactionary as to defend life and marriage? Yet little Hungary, once at the warm center of the Catholic heartland, has taken a bold step toward throwing off the prevailing secularist ideology. Central planners beware!

And speaking of Central Planners, that leads us to the second happy development in the past few months: Pope Benedict XVI's visit to the communist paradise of dirt-poor Cuba. On March 28th the Vicar of Christ met with that famous infidel, Fidel Castro. The Father of *Cuba roja* sat with the Holy Father and conversed about many things. Fidel even inquired about the changes in the liturgy, the duties of a Pope, his admiration for JPII and Mother Teresa. He then asked Pope Benedict to send him a good book to help him reflect in his leftist dotage.

The Holy Father in turn requested a favor: that Cuba declare Good Friday a national holiday. The grace flowed immediately, as this year at least, the favor was granted. What an irony: the serfs of atheist Cuba took the day off to honor the Death of the Lord, while for the freemen of America it was work as usual.

So we will take these happy signs and look for more, thanking the Risen Christ each time for manifesting His power and illuminating our world until He comes again.

Resurrexit sicut dixit! Alleluia!
He is risen as He said, Alleluia!

Father de Rosa