

Note from Sylvia:  
Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre,  
the founder of Society of  
Saint Pius X (SSPX - also  
known as "the Lefebvrites"),  
was, with several other  
bishops of the order,  
excommunicated in 1988.  
Archbishop Lefebvre was  
opposed to many of the  
changes wrought by the  
Second Vatican Council.  
Archbishop Lefebvre died in  
1991. The Society of Saint  
Pius X (SSPX) has  
flourished around the world.  
Many of its supporters deny  
there was an  
excommunication.

Bishop Bernard Fellay, who  
signed this letter to Bishop  
Timlin, has been Superior  
General of SSPX since 1994  
Talks have been underway  
with the Vatican since 2005  
to have the society  
recognized by the Holy See  
and be restored to full  
communion.

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+Menzingen, 10 Feb 1999

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Re : Fr. Urrutigoity, Society of St. John

Your Excellency,

As former superior of Fr. Urrutigoity, I see myself obliged in conscience to reveal to you the following matter. As the common good and the good of souls is involved, I do not hesitate any longer to communicate the following facts, stating here as clearly as possible that it is by no means a desire of revenge or any thing of that kind which is moving me, but my responsibility as the facts did happen while Fr. Urrutigoity was still a member of the Society of St. Pius X. The reason why I did not act before is that I only had a suspicion and was not able to verify the facts. Recently this has been the case.

The facts :

In 1997, just after Fr. Urrutigoity had left the St Thomas Aquinas Seminary in Winona, during a trip to Saint Louis or Kansas City, he was with a seminarian (whose name is Mathew Selinger) who had left the seminary with him at the same occasion. Fr. Urrutigoity was his spiritual director. They had made together the oath to never separate themselves whatever might happen.

At two occasions during this trip, as they were sleeping in the same hotel room, Fr. Urrutigoity approached the bed of the seminarian for obvious dishonest acts. The first time, the Seminarian did not react and left the impression that he was sleeping while Fr. Urrutigoity did touch him. The second time, one or two nights afterward, as Selinger was not sleeping because of the anguish, such a thing could happen again, he did not allow Father Urrutigoity to go any further when Fr. Urrutigoity approached his bed for obvious similar action. He definitely left Fr. Urrutigoity and contacted Fr. Ensey.

These actions certainly do fall under canon law and civil law.

Two Fathers of the Society of Saint John know the above mentioned facts, as Fr. Urrutigoity did admit it to them : Fr. Fullerton and Fr. Ensey.

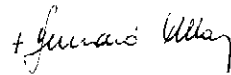
Here it to be considered that Fr. Urrutigoity has been accused of similar action while he was still a seminarian in our argentinian Seminary (with a seminarian who is now member priest of the Society of St John). As the facts then were not absolutely proven and a certain obscurity remained, though he was asked to leave our Seminary in Argentia, he was given a second chance by continuing his studies at St. Thomas Aquinas Seminary at Winona.

Our conclusion is that there is a dangerous pattern in Fr. Urrutigoity and we feel obliged in conscience to reveal this to you as his present ecclesiastical superior especially also because he is the present Superior of the Society of St John and we have a certain fear, because of the above mentioned facts, that he could misuse (what God prevents !) his authority.

The reason why he got into trouble with the Superiors of the Society of St Pius X, is **mainly** because we felt he had a strange, abnormal influence on the seminarians and priests, whom he seemed to attach to his brilliant, charismatic personality. When he asked me to recognize the society he intended to found (sic), among the reasons of my refusal, I explicitly mentioned this strange personal, guru-like attachment between the disciples and their leader.

If you think necessary to investigate any further, we are at your disposal. Of course Mathew Selinger is ready to state under oath the facts mentioned above.

Sincerely Yours In Cordibus Jesu et Mariae,



+Bernard Fellay  
Superior General of the  
Society of St. Pius X