

**Mt. St. Michael**  
**CATHOLIC DOCTRINE CLASS**

**“A Study of *Tumultuous Times* – Part II”**  
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**Part A – *History and Origins of Vatican II***  
**The First Session, the Modernists Seize Control, pp. 323-328**

- A. Vatican Council II *was a revolution.*
1. “Liberty, fraternity, and equality are in fact the keystones of the council doctrine concerning the church and the modern world” (Italian journalist Alberto Cavallari, *The Changing Vatican*, 1967).
  2. “Catholic Revolution,” *Look*, Feb. 9, 1965
  3. “New Currents Swirling around Peter’s Rock,” *Life*, Dec. 18, 1965
  4. “Catholics and Communists, Strange New Bedfellows,” *Look*, May 2, 1967
  5. Books printed since Vatican II: *Decomposition of Catholicism* (Louis Bouyer, 1967), *The Perplexed Catholic: A Guide Through Confusion* (John Reedy, 1968), *Catholic Revolution* (Douglas Roche, 1968), *Is It the Same Church?* (F.J. Sheed, 1969), *The Torn Tunic* (Tito Casini, 1970), “Has the Church Lost Its Soul?” article in *Newsweek*, Oct. 4, 1971, *The Remaking of the Church: an Agenda for Reform* (Richard McBrien, 1973), *Has the Catholic Church Gone Mad?* (John Eppstein, 1972), *The Runaway Church* (Peter Hebblethwaite, 1978), *Look What They’ve Done to My Church* (Leonard Urban, 1985), *Does Catholicism Still Exist?* (James Schall, 1994), *A People Adrift: The Crisis of the Roman Catholic Church in America* (Peter Steinfels, 2004)
  6. According to Bishop Donald Sanborn, Paul VI was the equivalent of the radical element of the French Revolution (1789-1790), John Paul II was the equivalent of Napoleon in preserving (albeit “toning down”) the long-term revolutionary effects
- B. The First Session of Vatican II (October 11 – December 8, 1962)
1. A key objective for the Modernists was to nullify the power of the Roman Curia, i.e. the Vatican bureaucracy.
  2. “Three Victories” for the Modernist European Alliance are recounted in Fr. Wiltgen’s book *The Rhine Flows into the Tiber*.
  3. Already in this first session heretical proclamations were made, e.g. Cardinal Lienart, of Lille, France, denying the solemn teaching of the Councils of Trent and of Vatican I that there were *two* sources, or fonts, of Divine Revelation – Tradition and Sacred Scripture.
  4. John XXIII halted debate on the Sources of Divine Revelation despite the lack of two-thirds majority vote to alter the document proposed (see Baum’s & John XXIII’s comment)
- C. The Modernists plan their strategy
1. After the First Session ended on Dec. 8, 1962, the European Alliance diligently strategized how to gain more control in the Second Session, due to begin September 29, 1963 (in the meantime John XXIII died and Paul VI was elected).
  2. Meetings were arranged in Munich (Feb., 1963) and Fulda (Aug., 1963)