

April 15, 2008

An Open Letter To Pope Benedict XVI On The Occasion Of His U.S. Visit

[VDARE.COM Note: Don't let this satire give you the idea that VDARE.COM is anti-Catholic—like the great Catholic journalist [G. K. Chesterton](#), we generally try "to keep this balance, and to distribute abuse and vituperation in such elegant and well chosen proportions, that no nobody can be offended or feel that he has been left out of the fun." If you search our archives, you'll find that we've both praised and condemned "all sorts and conditions of men" including Methodists. (Mrs. Clinton is a Methodist. So is President Bush.)

See also [An Open Letter to Edward Cardinal Egan, Archbishop of New York](#), [A Catholic Reader Meditates On "Migration Week"](#), and [A Catholic Reader Defends His Church Against Some Immigration Reform Critics—And Bishops](#)]

From [Peter Gadiel](#)

Dear [Pope Benedict](#):

Since you're [here in the US for a visit](#) I thought this was an appropriate time to write you on behalf of the organization of [art lovers](#) to which I belong. We are all particularly fond of the [art of the Vatican](#) and as such we have named our group League of Art of Papal Provenance Lovers. We just refer to ourselves as Love Apples (LofAPPLs).

First of all, because you and your own organization have decided to become so deeply and actively involved in [nullifying American immigration law](#) on behalf of [millions of illegal aliens](#), we recognize that you, as much as say, [Mayor Daley](#) of [Chicago](#) or [Sen. Ted Kennedy](#) are as much a part of the [rough and tumble of US politics](#) as they are. And since it is so common for American politicians to increase their folksy personas by using [informal nicknames](#), we figured we'd help you out by just calling you "**Benny**".

So Benny, here's why I'm writing you. It isn't just to let you know we love the Vatican's art. What we wanted to tell you is that because we are so devoted to that art we've decided we're going to move, *en masse*, into [the Vatican](#) in order to be closer to it.

We figured that since you and your guys here in the States have so [completely adopted the notion](#) that people from, say, Mexico have the [right to move to the USA](#) in violation of American law, that well, since you're so committed to the idea, that we'd just like to move close to the [Pieta](#).

Now, just to give you advance knowledge, there are a few conditions we Love Apples have set on our "[cross-border migration](#)" (as the U.N. would [refer to it](#)). We do require that our members have a true admiration for the art of the Vatican. However, because our art lover members are catholic (with a [small "c"](#)) in their artistic tastes, you're going to have to accept that when we move in with you that there are going to be some changes in the décor at St. Peter's and the [Sistine Chapel](#).

After all, lots of our members simply adore [Mondrian](#), [Picasso](#), and [Warhol](#) in addition to Michelangelo, Caravaggio, Raphael and [all those guys](#). So you'll just have to accept some additions to the collections. I know you won't like that we're going to be hanging up copies instead of originals, but hey look, we don't have your budget. And after all under your own rules, you're stuck.

Oh, and by the way. We know that you may have a real problem when some of our members hang up their [Robert Mapplethorpe](#) photos, but given your church's problems with [pedophile priests](#), maybe you'll welcome some enlightenment about what's going on in your name.

Also, a lot of our members aren't Catholic (big "C"), so that means you and yours are going to have to be pretty broadminded. But hey, that's what you're all about, right? So we know it won't be a problem if some of our people are [atheists](#), [Druids](#), [Wiccans](#), and fundamentalist [Mormons](#) with a few [wives](#). Okay? After all, you don't think America should worry about what immigrants believe either.

There'll be a lot of other details to iron out when we get there, of course. I mean, you guys [don't vote](#), and we do, so you'll just have to make a few changes in the political side of the Catechism. And naturally, we immigrants can't possibly be [divided from our families](#) because of your silly rules, so you're going to have to accept that our Love Apples will be bringing their families, [in-laws](#), cousins, [maids](#), and [gardeners](#).

Of course many of them don't like art at all. In fact a lot of them don't have *any* use for art at, so if some of your stuff winds up getting [graffittied](#), well, look, it's time to beef up those [Swiss Guards](#) and bring 'em into at [least the 19th century](#).

Speaking of the Swiss Guards, I should tell you that some of our relatives are not exactly civilized. In fact, they're [downright dangerous](#). But again, under your own rules you'll just have to accept that a substantial number of your [new neighbors](#) will be members of [international drug gangs](#). But hey, just keep reminding yourself that, if you're gonna be open minded, you gotta take the [bad with the good](#). We figure that the [Curia](#) will be able to handle the [baddies](#), and after all, you'll have a whole lot of extra [gardeners](#).

You might even get Sen. [Lindsey Graham](#) to come visit since [greens fees](#) at the Vatican golf courses will go way down with all that cheap labor.

So look Benny, I figured I'd just let you know what's headed your way so you could hire [extra teachers](#) for the [Vatican School System](#), [extra doctors](#) for [Vatican Hospital](#), and more social workers, drug counselors, [SWAT teams](#), etc.

Like I said, there'll be a [lot of changes coming](#), but I know you'll handle it just fine. Just one last thing, at least for now. One of our Love Apple members realized that the [dome of St. Peter's](#) had a striking resemblance to the top of a [liquor bottle](#), so we voted to [slightly alter it](#) and paint "[Absolut Vodka](#)" on it. After, all, Absolut is the [favorite](#) drink of Reconquistas like us.

But Benny, remember to drink responsibly.

Your pal in art and immigration,

Peter

Peter Gadiel ([email him](#)) is president of [9/11 Families for a Secure America](#). His son, 9/11 World Trade Center victim James Gadiel (North Tower, 103rd floor), was 23 at the time of his murder.

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