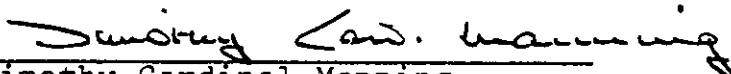


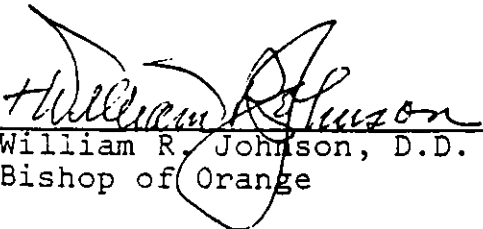
A STATEMENT OF POSITION IN REFERENCE TO  
ST. JOSEPH'S HILL OF HOPE - CITY OF GOD

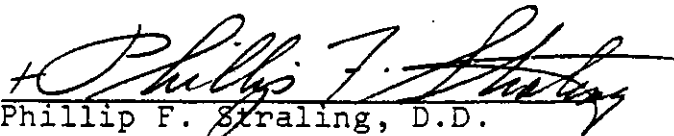
For some years, the organization known as "St. Joseph's Hill of Hope - City of God" has been the subject of inquiries from the Catholic faithful to Church authorities in Los Angeles, Orange and San Bernardino dioceses.

This organization, its properties, its activities and its teachings are independent of the Roman Catholic Church, its jurisdiction and its favor. Financial or moral support of this organization by Catholics cannot be construed as support of the Church.

In particular, the President of "St. Joseph's Hill of Hope - City of God" enjoys no commission from the Church to teach, counsel, or conduct retreats. Revelations and teachings identifying St. Joseph with the Blessed Trinity and obliging Roman Catholics to build the "St. Joseph's Hill of Hope - City of God" are not acceptable to the Church and are rejected by us, the authentic teachers of the People of God, in line with our authority and responsibility.

  
Timothy Cardinal Manning  
Archbishop of Los Angeles

  
William R. Johnson, D.D.  
Bishop of Orange

  
Phillip F. Straling, D.D.  
Bishop of San Bernardino

DATE: March 15, 1981

THEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF MATERIALS OF "ST. JOSEPH'S HILL OF  
HOPE-CITY OF GOD" DISTRIBUTED TO RETREATANTS, NOVEMBER, 1979

GENERAL BACKGROUND

The materials are composed of doctrinal, moral, and spiritual maxims of a mostly undeveloped nature. A number of these are stated to be the revelations of particular saints through the medium of the President of the organization, Frances Klug.

Many of these teachings and "revelations" are of a traditional and pious nature; some, however, are of an heretical and questionable nature.

SPECIFIC CRITIQUE

The following points are brought to the attention of the Ordinaries of the Los Angeles, Orange and San Bernardino dioceses:

1. The materials exhibit a marked absence of direction from the documents of the Second Vatican Council, and the papal and episcopal statements of the past fifteen years. In this condition, they reflect an imperfect and deficient theology, catechesis, and spiritual guidance.

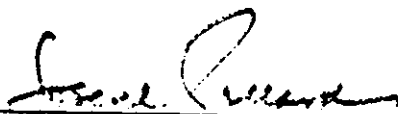
As a corollary, a question must be raised as to the avoidance of the theology and directions of that Council and, subsequently, as to the quality of the catechesis being offered. These materials, and their proponent(s) cannot be given a recognition or an authenticity without violence to the Magisterium, and without infringement upon the rights of Roman Catholics to hear

the full Gospel and its authentic and authoritative interpretation and application.

2. In one segment, St. Joseph is given the stature of a person of the Blessed Trinity. In one instance, he is called God himself. This teaching and "revelation" is erroneous in the extreme, undermining a truth crucial to the Christian revelation and necessary for salvation. This error is described as the core of "the miracle of St. Joseph" and as the primary "revelation" and teaching of this organization.
3. It is inferred that the Church has been ignorant of this "truth." Hence, other affirmations of the Church's uniqueness and Divine origin are now contradicted, and with them the doctrine on the Spirit and that on Tradition.
4. The doctrine of the Blessed Trinity is altered to include a fourth Person (St. Joseph), or to substitute him for a Third Person unnamed.
5. The "revelation" to build the "St. Joseph's Hill of Hope—City of God" is addressed to Roman Catholics as an obligation on them. As this building is clearly a doctrinal "revelation" and theology more than a physical edifice, Roman Catholics should be warned against building (i.e. propounding) such a doctrine and the edifices that will reflect it.

CONCLUSION

The teachings of the organization "St. Joseph's Hill of Hope-City of God" are, in their key doctrine, heretical. In ancillary teachings, there is an avoidance of the mens ecclesiae. On both counts, I find the "revelations" to be spurious.



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Reverend Monsignor Joseph Pollard, S.T.D.  
Theologian, Archdiocese of Los Angeles

*December 24<sup>th</sup> 1980*

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DATE