

OPINION

Frank Pavone: 10 spiritual principles faithful Catholics should keep in mind about Satan

The devil and those who serve him want to distract you from the good you can do for God's Kingdom.



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([LifeSiteNews](#)) — This weekend, the largest gathering of Satanists ever will convene in Boston for the “SatanCon 2023 Conference.” They claim not to believe in the spiritual being known as the devil, nor to worship him, but rather to coalesce around their own values, including “compassion” and “personal freedoms.”

Some of the workshops will deal with “reproductive freedom,” and that, of course, means abortion to these people, who have actually used the claim of “religious freedom” to challenge state laws that protect the unborn. Constitutionally, of course, that claim fails.

They see abortion as a ritual sacrifice. So does Zachary King, a pro-life Catholic who used to be a High Wizard of Satanism. In his book, which I was happy to endorse, Zachary says he took part in 146 ritual abortions.

Over the years I have seen the connection between abortion and Satanism – not that the women who get abortions are Satanists, but that at the core of the abortion industry there are many who literally treat it as a religion. Former and current abortionists admit to various Satanic rituals surrounding the abortion procedure, and I have seen, in buildings that used to be abortion clinics, the apparatus they would use for ritual sacrifice.

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As the Satanic Temple holds their conference this weekend, here are ten simple things to keep in mind:

1. **The devil is real.** Jesus speaks about him in literal terms, as do other Biblical writers. He is a powerful spiritual being.
2. **The devil’s power is limited.** Because of the victory won by Christ’s death and resurrection, the devil’s kingdom has been defeated. It cannot have the last word. He exercises real power in the world, but that power is now contained and limited.
3. **Don’t see the devil around every corner.** We can get ourselves in plenty of trouble all on our own, while the devil just sits back and laughs. We shouldn’t blame everything on him. While recognizing that he is real and active, “prowling around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour” (1 Pt. 5:8), we have to nevertheless take responsibility for our own actions, and should not give the devil more attention than he deserves.

4. **Invoke Christ, not the devil.** When we pray against the devil's power, we should not address him directly, but rather always call out to Christ the Lord, asking him to rebuke the devil. Staying strong in prayer, Scripture, the Holy Spirit, the sacraments, and a virtuous life of service protects us from the devil.
5. **Devil worship is about self-assertion.** As Zachary King has written in his book, *"A religion doesn't have to worship Satan to be satanic. All you have to do is not worship God the Father."* That's all Satan cares about, that we assert our own will over God's. This was the original temptation: "You shall be like gods" (Gen. 3:5). And it is the core meaning of "pro-choice."
6. **Take on the mind of Christ.** In Philippians 2, St. Paul shows us that the mind of Christ, though he is equal to God, is to humble himself. Christ left it to the Father to exalt and glorify him; so should we (see Mt. 23:12).
7. **Satan is the enemy, not those in his grasp.** Pray for all those who are Satanists; they are not the enemy, but rather are captive to the enemy. They are our brothers and sisters, whom we want God to set free.
8. **Abortion is demonic.** Satan hates God, but knows he cannot kill him. So instead, he kills what is made in God's image, that is, human life. Nothing takes more human life than abortion, and Scripture shows how the sacrifice of children has long been understood as demonic sacrifice (see 2 Kings 17:17).
9. **Satan means "accuser."** The devil wants you, and all around you, to keep thinking about your past sins, as if they forever define who you are and as if there is no repentance. He wants you to forget that Christ redeems you, cleanses you, and gives you a new life.
10. **Do good and let the birds sing.** The devil and those who serve him want to distract you from the good you can do for God's Kingdom. They do not want you to carry it out. Do not pay any attention to their distractions, but act as if it is just the singing of birds in the background while you continue the good work God has given you, today and all the days of your life.

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