

## Disqus Comments Under Kevin Symonds' Article *Deception For Our Times? Questioning Anne a Lay Apostle*

- *noelfitz*  
Hello Kevin,  
thank you for this article. It is unfortunately very accurate.  
  
Both Sr Brieger McKenna and Fr Kevin Scallon are very respected, and have withdrawn their support for Kathryn Anne Clarke, but I am not sure of Bishop Leo O'Reilly's position.  
  
Catholic Answers considered Ms Clarke to be a fraud.  
  
"Anne the Lay Apostle really IS Kathryn Anne Clark. She's a fraud and a liar! I'm friends with Rick Salbato, and he is telling the truth." <http://forums.catholic.com/showthread.php?p=2040865>
  - *http://d-rium.blogspot.com Kevin Symonds*  
Dare I say "quite" accurate, Noel?
  - *Mary Kochan*  
Noel, you can't say "Catholic Answers considered Ms Clarke to be a fraud" when you are merely referring to a comment made by one of their readers. That is not the same as Catholic Answers taking a position.
  - *Kelly*  
Noelfitz, that is inaccurate. Catholic Answers has made NO such statement.
- *noelfitz*  
Mary, as usual I fully agree with you. Thanks for the clarification.
  - *Rivka*  
Thanks for accepting the clarification graciously. 😊
- *Kevin Symonds*  
It has come to my attention certain "questions" about me and Anne. I would like to address them.  
  - 1) I have not made one penny from my writings on Anne. In fact, I have spent money in my research.
  - 2) The matter is one of the preservation of faith and good morals.

-Kevin J. Symonds

  - *Robb Rob*  
Kevin  
Having a background in theology you will know that the granting of the imprimatur is a declaration by the properly constituted Church Authority that the work to which the imprimatur has been granted is declared free from moral and doctrinal error. Given that this is now the case with Anne's writings, are you now prepared to submit to the Authority of the Catholic Church and accept, as Bishop Leo O'Reilly has declared, that Anne's writings are indeed in full communion with Catholic Faith and morals?  
And if not...why not?  
Please understand, Kevin, I mean no disrespect to you or anyone who genuinely cherishes truth but the logic of the situation seems inescapable.  
  
With my good wishes to all,  
Robbie
  - *pnvikos*  
The imprimatur is no guarantee of freedom from doctrinal error; it is only a statement by a bishop that he could find none, and is willing to take the responsibility if doubts about its doctrinal correctness arise.

## Disqus Comments Under Kevin Symonds' Article *Deception For Our Times? Questioning Anne a Lay Apostle*

A number of books have had imprimaturs and had them subsequently withdrawn. The once highly popular book *Christ Among Us* was one such. It indirectly denied the bodily resurrection of Jesus, but in such a way that it was easily glossed over.

- o *Kelly*

The church is the only one to make this decision Kevin Symonds. I see you're a layman from S. Carolina. You are not qualified to be an expert. Dr. Mark Miravalle has done much more research and has continued to support Direction for Our Times. I pray you follow God in this and find truth.

- Pingback: [Deception for our Times? Questioning Anne a Lay Apostle | Foundation Life\(\)](#)

- *Michael Bettinger*

Thank you for this concise presentation of facts surrounding the controversy of this spiritual movement, which resembles a personality cult vs. an orthodox Catholic apostolate. Bishop O'Reilly is looking and sounding more and more like the man trying to stay concealed from view as the mutt Toto pulls back the curtain, exposing the truth.

Bishop O'Reilly, along with Fr. Connolly, always speak of the "fruits" of this movement. How come they don't discuss the "rot" too? In a recent interview, anonymous Anne granted, she said the ministry is "under attack" constantly, and that those who challenge the ministry are "the enemy of goodness." It is precisely that mantra that she instructs her "little apostles" that is causing harmful divisions. If a priest or lay person asks the questions that need to be asked in their own discernment, they are deemed to be the enemy. This should not be.

This article presents many questions that need to be examined. I guess the question remains, will the good Bishop address each of them?

- *noelfitz*

Mr Symonds,

I am very grateful to you for your contributions. This current article by you is very important and as time goes on I am becoming more concerned.

Please keep up the good work you are doing. I enclose below a quote that may be relevant.

\*\*\*\*\*

"Bishop Leo O'Reilly established a commission to investigate the authenticity of the phenomenon in 2010. He said the "work of evaluation is continuing and the outcome of it will be made public in due course". Dr O'Reilly has also forwarded a copy of the writing of the alleged visionary to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (CDF) in Rome for doctrinal assessment. Dr O'Reilly pointed out that his "permission to distribute the messages does not imply a final judgment on whether they are authentic private revelation.

"A final judgment on that question must await the outcome of an official Church inquiry into these matters," he said" (<http://www.irishcatholic.ie/site/content/anne-visionary-movement-has-%C2%80400k-bank>).

\*\*\*\*\*

- *Michael Bettinger*

Shocked at this Anne a lay apostle movement and confused about statements made by Bishop Leo O'Reilly. Thanks for the additional information for our discernment Noellfitz, this might be helpful too. If you go to FAQ at the DFOT website, you read under "Where do the messages come from?" that "The messages have been given to Anne, a lay apostle, by Jesus, the Blessed Mother, God the Father, and many saints." If Bishop O'Reilly and Fr. Connolly agree this is truth, and they have said nothing gets published without their approval, why the need to forward the messages onto the CDF for discernment of authenticity, as it would appear they've already given the green light the origin of the messages. Second point, under the question "Why does Anne continue to be anonymous?", we read Jesus and Mary

## Disqus Comments Under Kevin Symonds' Article *Deception For Our Times? Questioning Anne a Lay Apostle*

(assuming they mean Our Lady) instructed her to work anonymously. If this is so, why then does she still continue to do work as Kathy Clarke? One would have thought Jesus and Mary might have had objected to her having pro-choice individuals involved in DFOT, as indicated in this article. Lastly, under the question "Are the messages for Christians only?," DFOT responds, "Not at all." So, is this movement "Catholic" or not?

- *Kelly*

The woman whom Kevin Symonds from S. Carolina says Mrs. Clarke is "involved" with is a convert. She converted to the Catholic faith because of DFOT. This is a wonderful fruit! Kevin left that part out as well as the fact that Mrs. Clarke is divorced because her husband was abusive. She is a humble woman whom I've never heard as for money. Her Volumes bring much fruit. I suggest you read one.

- *Longtimefollower*

While I appreciate a healthy cynicism to asking inquiring questions about someone who has put themselves out there for potential scrutiny, I hope the Mr. Symonds, that you took the time to read The Volumes and understand that the messages Anne shares have never been nor do they give any sense of self-agrandizement. If you want to try to address concerns of what she is doing and has done since 2004, I challenge you to object or provide debate to any single message she has ever written. Each and every book opens with a disclaimer that the Church has not formally yet approved the apparitions, and that in fact, they have been submitted the Holy See for NIHIL OBSTAT and the Imprimatur. If anyone who has ever started a movement or a group knows, you start and bring in people you know and trust and who are inspired by what you are doing. Nothing you have provided indicates otherwise, and I would argue, the financial numbers you bring up are nothing that could be taken as profiting. I would take them as enough to subsidize a reasonable support of making a living.

Anne has never stated she is not a sinner, and in fact her messages of hope and mercy have been consistent from the very beginning. As Pope Urban VIII is quoted in the beginning of each volume: "In cases which involve private revelations, it is better to believe than not to believe, for if you believe and it is proven false, you will receive all blessing as if it had been true, because you believed it to be true." As a reader and follower of the Volumes for quite a long time, i respectfully challenge the skeptics to review the messages and return with any issues of what the messages said and have been saying all along. Lastly Mr. Symonds, as a Steubenville graduate, i hope you took the time to interview or talk with Dr. Mark Miravalle who is a professor at Steubenville and has interviewed Anne a number of times. His perspective would be a welcomed input to your story.

- *Guest*

Can I ask you why does 'anne' want to remain anonymous ? It doesn't make any sense to have anonymous visionaries.

- *Rivka*

In perfect honesty, I think it makes sense for any visionary (or alleged visionary) to want to remain anonymous so as to have more of a chance to live a comparatively normal life with their family.

- *Kevin Symonds*

Or to hide their past.

- *Kelly*

She has nothing to hide. She will be the first to say she is not worthy.

- *Kelly*

She remained anonymous to protect her family. She also wanted Jesus to be the center. This was a decision made along with those supporting her.

- *Alpha1*

Why does a 'visionary' wish to remain anonymous ? Why are these people not put under an order of obedience as many true visionaries in the past were ? I wonder if Bishop O'Reilly asked this woman to

## Disqus Comments Under Kevin Symonds' Article *Deception For Our Times? Questioning Anne a Lay Apostle*

stop selling her books and close her operations down for a year, would she do it? I don't think so. She is a complete fraud, anyone who make money for themselves out of messages they claim to receive from God is a fraud. In Ireland, we can see also the workings of Christina Gallagher who took money and donations from vulnerable innocent people. Another self proclaimed visionary from Ireland calling herself 'Maria Divine Mercy' who promotes 'The Warning Second Coming' is another anonymous false visionary. Have any of these women undergone proper psychological and theological tests? St. Bernadette, The Seers of Fatima, St. Faustina Kowalska, St. Pio and others underwent severe and strict testing by the Church. Why are the Hierarchy in Ireland allowing these 'anonymous' and other 'visionaries' to prey on vulnerable people?

- o *Kelly*

I'm sorry you have read and believed a person like Kevin Symonds from S. Carolina. He is just someone with an opinion that may very well not be from God. You will know a person by their fruits. She remained anonymous to protect her family and keep the focus on Jesus. The church is the one who will decide. So far so good. There are many false profits. You will know by their fruits. Read a Volume. You will see from there. Don't judge someone or something by an opinion. Read for yourself. Maria Divine Mercy is obviously false. The fruits will tell you that and the church will condemn there.

- *chiefsfan*

I think an indefinite order to stop would be more telling. If the above is correct (which I am most certain is), then the possibility of support for a year from her wealthy supporters is a more like a probability. I personally have read her books. I have also taken notice to the fact that there is little to no reference to scripture on her website, little to no quotations from the saints (why not give St. Teresa's explanation of locutions instead of Fr. Gobbi's?), as well as portraits of the "Gospa" behind her as she gives some of her video lessons. Much discernment is needed with this one, friends. I think our Catholic brothers and sisters are so hungry for anything that they will accept the temporary nourishment of this "sugar," in place of the "meat" that will sustain them in the long run. My prayers to all of you. Wonderful work, Kevin. Keep it up.

- o *Mariamante*

Stop what? Discussing God's love? Why is that so offensive to you?

- *Kevin Symonds*

Love and lies or falsehoods do not go together. Just because Kathryn Clarke preaches God's love does not thereby mean her alleged locutions are supernatural.

- *Kelly*

Kevin Symonds what are you "preaching" besides hatred and false statements about a woman doing God's work. Shame on you.

- *TCP*

Mathew 7:15

Submitting her writings to the Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith in Rome and letting her followers know was a good ploy as it will take years for them to approve or disapprove them.

She needs to be exposed. I don't understand how this can go on or how the local Bishop can be so ignorant on this.

- *Paul*

I have been involved with the apostolate for several years and I have never been asked for money, most of the books have been handed to me for free. I can firmly state, in the strongest possible terms, that Anne is a devout catholic who is both hard working and a devoted mother to six children. (Bearing in mind that nobody is perfect) Whenever I have heard her talk the emphasis has been always directly on Christ and his Church, never on herself. I believe that the decision not to publish writings using her own name was an attempt to protect her young family from the obvious attention these works would

## Disqus Comments Under Kevin Symonds' Article *Deception For Our Times? Questioning Anne a Lay Apostle*

attract. The only thing that these writings have inspired in me is a desire to become a better person and a better catholic and to deepen my relationship with Christ . If that is subversive or deceptive then I must be missing something. I implore anyone who is discussing these writings to first pray about it and then read some of them . Anne consistently states that her primary concern is to remain in complete obedience to the church ( the relevant authority in this case being Bishop Leo o Reilly). In addition to this she has always stated that she would only publish her works with the permission of Bishop o Reilly , As a consequence two of the volumes (5 & 8 )remained unpublished , up until a few weeks ago, when permission was received for the publication of volume 5. Now, despite all of the rumours and all of the supposed scandal , Bishop O Reilly still feels that it is appropriate for the publication of these works . In light of this I will continue to take my lead from the relevant authority in the matter , Bishop O Reilly .All of this is said without even beginning to go into the multitude of graces that my family and friends have recieved through the apostolate. These volumes are not meant to replace any of the teachings of our faith, they are messages for this time , messages that served to help me refocus on the important things , namely prayer ,adoration ,monthly confession and rising each morning and offering my day to the lord . I hope this will be of help to anyone who is concerned about the apostolate .

- *Kevin Symonds*  
Hello Paul. Thank you for posting.
- *Kevin Symonds*  
You must not be signed up for her newsletter in which Anne fairly regularly asks for money. She just did so in the past two weeks.
  - *Paul*  
i suspect if you compiled a list of religious organisations/charities which did not at some point appeal for donations , it would be a decidely short list Kevin. You may also be interested to know that permission has now been recieved to print the final withheld volume (8) .
    - *Mike*  
Agreed Paul.
    - *Kevin Symonds*  
Paul, I was merely responding to a specific point you made. However, if you wish to give money hand-over-fist to Anne and DFOT, by all means, please do so.  
Just remember one thing: There was an Apostolic Visitation in Ireland for a reason.
      - *Paul*  
<http://directionforourtimes.com/impramatur/>
        - *Kevin Symonds*  
And...? Do you wish to prove something?  
This and much more shall be shown to you.
      - *Kelly*  
Kevin Symonds of South Carolina, you are no expert. Your fruits are being shown.
      - *Kelly*  
Kevin Symonds you are wrong.
  - *Kelly*  
That is not true and you know it Kevin Symonds.
- *Mike*

## Disqus Comments Under Kevin Symonds' Article *Deception For Our Times? Questioning Anne a Lay Apostle*

Paul – I agree with all your comments and would like to emphasize...”the only thing that these writings have inspired in me is a desire to become a better person and a better catholic and to deepen my relationship with Christ.”

- *Kevin Symonds*

I would like to encourage you to read my article “The Greatest of Pastoral Care” here on Catholic Lane. It address this very point.

- *Mariamante*

The messages revealed to Anne are amazing. I love them. We are all called to be apostles. There are many reasons for her anonymity. She wants to maintain the messages about Jesus, and not about her, like some of those Mega TV cultish personality figures. Anyone in this world, with a real message of truth will be attacked. She has NEVER said anything contrary to the bible, and articles like these are rampant.

- *Kevin Symonds*

Mariamante...of the Apostolate of Holy Motherhood?

- *Prudence*

Anyone can “discuss” God’s love, Nora. The issue here is the origin of the messages along with proper investigation. There are many feel good movements. Not all are from Jesus, Mary, the Saints, etc. As for Mariamante, you consider ALL questioning of someone who claims to receive messages from Heaven an attack? I consider it prudent, especially when a “visionary” chooses to be anonymous in such a public way! Be a victim once to these people and then talk about messages of love! You will be lucky to have ANY faith left!

- *Kevin Symonds*

“Nora”? As in Nora McCarthy?

- *Marie Dean*

I put this on my blog..thanks for this post. I read the first three books and was uneasy with some of the wording. Like so many others, this is probably only personal meditations and not visions or messages. Women of Grace also has an article on her. Why bishops get involved with these seers is beyond me. All we need is the Revelation of the Scriptures, the sacraments, the writings of the great saints, and the Catechism. Why people feel the need to read the latest seers is something I do not understand. Of course, the disclaimer is confusing to people who only see the bishops’ approvals. I always wait for the CDF decisions on these types of things.

- *Holly*

Are you kidding me? So she is compensated for her job and others are compensated for theirs. Big deal. People who work at churches are compensated for theirs as well. She travels constantly. It’s not like she is raking in hundreds of thousands of dollars. I have read some of the books and went to a couple of meetings. Never was I asked for money.

- *Maria*

I am a lay apostle of Jesus Chris Returning King for past seven years.

I attend Mass daily.

All the messages in the Volumes are in line with Catholic teachings and with the scripture which I read each day.

Also I never was asked for the money from DFOT.

I would like to share with you part of my personal testimony which I freely gave about Volumes about 5 years ago.

I was born in Warsaw, Poland. When I was 17

years old I gave birth to my son, Dominik and become a single parent.

I came to US when I was almost 21 years old together with my son and made our home here.

I was raising and supporting my son, Dominik by myself for 13 years.

We struggled often from financial needs and emotionally as well; I always tried to keep “things”

## Disqus Comments Under Kevin Symonds' Article *Deception For Our Times? Questioning Anne a Lay Apostle*

together somehow working extra hours and often worrying about Dominik staying home alone. My faith in God at that time kept us going; I prayed and hoped that things would get better. We were always going to church on Sunday and holy days attending Mass regularly. God had answered my prayers when I met my loving husband, Greg.

I got married when Dominik was 13 years old and gave birth to our son, Anthony. Somehow we became lukewarm Catholics not always attending Mass on Sundays and growing apart from our church.

When Anthony went to kindergarten I got a job as a Real Estate Professional to help us financially. I was working many hours and now I was growing apart from my family.

Wake up call came

on December 13th 2005, when on one cold night Dominik left home and never came back. Police knocked on our door four in the morning and we had to drive to police pricing to find out that our son, Dominik died in automobile accident.

Now shock, denial, disbelief, anger and grief were what was left for me. I had to learn how to deal with it.

I didn't know how to go on but yet I knew that I must go on for Anthony and for my husband. I resented God; I was so angry I called Our Lord a monster at one time and even denied His existence. I didn't want to go church any longer but did it just because Anthony was preparing for his First Communion and thank God for to my husband for taking over. If not for Greg Anthony wouldn't go First Communion that year; I wasn't capable to prepare him. Summer 2006 my parents came for a visit from Poland and to help me; I was a wreck, emotionally and physically.

Thank God for my mom, she has a real gift of faith. One day when we were at the cemetery by Dominik's grave my mom was praying and I was angry at her for doing so; I couldn't pray. I wanted her to stop praying and stop crying. In answer to it my mom told me that her faith is her treasure. My reply to her it was that I wish to have faith like her too, so I can be with my son again just for that reason alone.

Somehow seed was planted in me and my search for God had begun.

On October 2006 my husband's cousin, Michele gave us a DVD of "Anne lay apostle" on Tele Care. When I heard her speaking

something melted in my heart and I asked my husband to find out about the volumes, which he did and ordered them for me.

When the Volumes arrived and I started to read I knew that God granted me my wish. He was talking to me and I couldn't stop reading and sharing with my husband and Anthony as well. Things in my small family started to change, we started to pray in the mornings and read Anne's volumes and also a Bible.

My completed conversion had happen when I read Volume Four: "Jesus speaks to sinners" and I went to confession.

After reading volume Six I quit my job to be a wife to my husband and a mother to Anthony. I also felt in my heart that Our Lord personally called me to become Extraordinary Minister of the Holy Communion, when I was praying before Blessed Sacrament, which I did become one and that was just the beginning.

All of us three became "lay apostles of Jesus Christ returning King".

We pray rosary each evening, read message from Our Lord together each month and going confession once a month.

I try to do my adoration before Blessed Sacrament once week.

Anthony became altar server and goes to church with me before school almost every morning; also he joined the church chorus, he likes to sing. I also bring Communion to homebound; I become mentor of young single mother in catholic charities, I'm participating in Baptism Program and I assist funerals in our church.

Well my husband works to support our small family and we still share what we can with others.

## Disqus Comments Under Kevin Symonds' Article *Deception For Our Times? Questioning Anne a Lay Apostle*

God is so good to us and bless us each day.

I am forever grateful to Our Lady; I know she helped me to find Jesus.

I'm forever grateful to Our Lord Jesus, for saving me.

I'm also grateful for my mom, she never stopped praying for me and for my husband who never gives up on me and always gives me support.

I'm still grieving its only 3 years Dominik had gone with Our Lord but going to Mass each morning, to receive Our Lord in a Communion gives me strength and healing to go on and also help others as well.

In conclusion to my testimony I will say what one of our priests in St. Rose of Lima said in one of his homilies "THANK GOD FOR GOD".

Certainly I would be lost wit out God and without His healing power and my life would have no sense what so ever.

And just to add to that, I'm grateful for the messages in the Volumes.

God Bless

- *Hmmm....*

It's wonderful that you are edified by "Anne's" meditations. One very large problem that I have with her writing is, however, that the words of Jesus are ALL from these meditations. Look at her website. Can you find ONE word from sacred scripture? Try to buy one rosary. Can you find one? I will even take one little teeny tiny suggestion to pick up the Holy Bible instead of her works. Will you show me? Keep going to Mass. Receive communion often and frequent the sacrament of reconciliation. Give freely to others in the name of Jesus. You will have all that you ever need. Of note, "Anne" has said that Jesus has a mission for her above and beyond her vocation as wife and mother. Compare that statement to the fact that the Blessed Virgin Mary's primary vocation was the greatest: She was wife and mother first. I find a lack of humility and almost a gluttony in all of this to be something that we should be paying attention to. Just sayin...

- *Kelly*

DFOT promotes the Rosary! She is a devout Catholic who attends mass daily. You are taking words out of context. Her children are grown. When they were young Anne was only asked to write what Jesus and Mary told her. She was always told her family came first. When her children grew older she came out in public and began speaking. Her anonymity kept her hidden with her first duties as a mother. I'm sorry you choose to believe fools.

- *Prudence*

Kelly,

I have read ALL of her works. I have studied her website and have had personal experience with the "fruits" of this apostolate. You are being shown only positive because there are people around "Anne" who are exceptional at building business. I pray that you will discern your reason for passion in this movement? Did it help when you were in pain or did not feel the Presence of God? You know that God is closer to you in darkness than when you feel Him, right? And you also know that it is not good to rely on that comfort, or even prefer it, to that painful longing we have for God. We can be lulled into a false we are saved because we are chosen feel good mentality with movements like this. We remain nursing children instead of women and men of mature, educated by trial and pain faith. The words if "Jesus" on her website are only those from her writing. Only her products or writings from her core

## Disqus Comments Under Kevin Symonds' Article *Deception For Our Times? Questioning Anne a Lay Apostle*

group are promoted for sale. I even remember a promo on her sight which started as, "How do you film a movie about a woman who has traveled to heaven, purgatory..." A woman who??? The movie is about the woman??? It was their promo, not mine. I pray that you put her works away for awhile and pray for light. Also, pay attention if the works inspire secret pride. I was edified at first yet then pride crept in. I'm praying for you.

- *Maria*

I am a lay apostle of Jesus Christ Returning King for past seven years.

I attend Mass daily.

All the messages in the Volumes are in line with Catholic teachings and with the scripture which I read each day.

My life had been saved because of the messages in the Volumes and my family as well.

Also I never was asked for the money from DFOT. No one said to me: "give me your money". I gave it or do freely as donation to support the mission.

Our God is Love & Mercy. And His mission continues.

In today's Gospel of Luke 11:15-26 Jesus says: "Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters."

You may find yourself fight against God.

- *Rivka*

"The Breakable Vow" is a novel about escaping abusive relationships. Yes that includes abusive same-sex relationships and abusive relationships outside of marriage. But I wouldn't call that a "positive" depiction of such relationships.

As far as "Anne's" mystical writings go, I'm going to leave that decision to the Church. If the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith approves them, then I will support them, if the Congregation finds error, I will stick with the Congregation's decision.

For the time being, I'm reading other (fully approved) writings, so it doesn't affect me.

- *Kevin Symonds*

Then why trouble yourself posting about this matter?

- *Rivka*

good point.

- *Kelly*

To stand up for truth Kevin. You should try it.

- *John Mck*

November 11th, 2013

..... Bishop Leo O'Reilly has granted an Imprimatur for all of the writings of Direction for Our Times

- *Kevin Symonds*

Paul already beat you to this notice 23 days ago.

There is a lot more to this story than you know.

- *John Mck*

Good, it was worth mentioning again.

- *Kevin Symonds*

I see the parallels to Kathryn's "messages" at work.

- *Kelly*

What are you implying Kevin? Your fruits are showing.

- *Robb Rob*

## Disqus Comments Under Kevin Symonds' Article *Deception For Our Times? Questioning Anne a Lay Apostle*

Dear brothers and sisters. Be aware that all of Anne's writings have now been granted the imprimatur by His Excellency Bishop Leo O'Reilly. Authority is his alone, as local ordinary of the diocese, to make pronouncements of authenticity or otherwise. This authority is not granted to individual priests, sisters or laypersons. As Catholics we must remain obedient to the properly constituted ecclesiastical authorities and not assume for ourselves a role to which we have no claim before God.

o *Kevin Symonds*

Dear Robs Rob,

Good afternoon and thank you for posting. Some points:

- 1) You forget that the Holy Father also enjoys full and universal jurisdiction in the Diocese of Kilmore.
- 2) Would that the authority of the Bishop of Mostar-Duvno had been taken seriously by promoters of Medjugorje, of which Kathryn Clarke is one (she got her "start" from it).
- 3) The imprimatur granted by Bishop O'Reilly is not the same as endorsing her claims as supernatural in origin (which is a separate theological and canonical matter). Thus, I remain completely and 100% within my canonical rights to continue challenging the character of Kathryn Clarke's claims.

I have a question for you: did the article above discuss the content of Kathryn's writings as "Anne"?

As to your other question in another post about accepting O'Reilly's authority, I think the above responses suffice.

Thanks for posting!

-Kevin J. Symonds

- *Robs Rob*  
Hi Kevin

I did not 'forget' that the Holy Father has jurisdiction. His jurisdiction is of no relevance to the fact that the imprimatur has been granted. It's done! Do you hope, perhaps that it will be undone?

Secondly, the bishop of Mostar has no jurisdiction to rule on Anne's writings....bringing him up is simply a red herring. His situation is irrelevant. Complex, to be sure, but irrelevant to Anne a lay apostle and her claims.

Thirdly, I am fully aware that an imprimatur is not a declaration of supernatural origin. I did not claim it to be so. Did I?

Your responses do not suffice. The fact remains that Anne's writings have been officially declared free from moral and doctrinal error. So I ask you, again, in full view of all who read this here....do you accept this declaration. It's not a complicated question.

Robbie.

- *Kevin Symonds*  
Dear Robs Rob,

Thank you for having responded to my comment.

- 1) Yes, you did forget that the Holy Father has jurisdiction in the Diocese of Kilmore.

You said:

"Authority is [O'Reilly's] alone, as local ordinary of the diocese, to make pronouncements of authenticity or otherwise...."  
If you did not "forget" you would have included a reference to him.

## Disqus Comments Under Kevin Symonds' Article *Deception For Our Times? Questioning Anne a Lay Apostle*

2) My remark about the Bishop of Mostar-Duvno was only wistful, but designed to make you think for a moment. Don't make more of it than this.

3) Regarding this point, there was some ambiguity in your post(s) that needed to be clarified. To be clear, I will spell it out plainly and directly.

A) I never discussed Kathryn Clarke's writings (as in their content) in this article.

B) O'Reilly's imprimatur only concerns said content of said writings. Your discussion about the imprimatur is designed (and please, don't deny it) to place me in a position of having to admit or accept something. Since, however, I did not discuss said content of said writings, your point about accepting the imprimatur loses the force with which you intended it. Now, regarding your overall question. I cannot answer. DFOT itself has told me that O'Reilly is awaiting the Holy See's review of the matter before the Bishop takes further action.

Who am I to judge otherwise?

Thank you again for posting!

- *Robs Rob*

Kevin. So. I take it you're not going to answer the question then. you see my original post was in response to a comment you made saying that you were concerned for faith and morals. it's a little bit further back up the list of comments. you indicated that the basis of your opposition was because you were concerned about faith and morals. my overall comment is that the bishop has declared the writings free from error. so I'm going to ask you one last time. do you accept his declaration yes or no. its not a complicated question.

- *Kevin Symonds*

Dear Robs Rob,

I said in another comment from two years ago that "the matter was one of the preservation of faith and good morals."

Please find for me in the original post where I connected that to the writings of Kathryn Clarke.

That said, sir, I don't think you understood my last post. So I will, once again, be clear and direct:

DFOT has told me that the Holy See is currently reviewing the dossier sent it by Bishop O'Reilly.

I am sure that you are aware, Robs Rob, that the First See is judged by no one. If I were to respond to your question, I would give occasion to my detractors.

In other words: while the Holy See's review is pending, I am UNABLE to answer your question.

"Unable" and "unwilling" are two different things, sir. I am sure you understand this.

That clarified, unless there is another matter about which you wish to speak, let us not speak of the current one until the Holy See makes its judgment known.

Thanks for posting!

- *Kevin Symonds*

By the way, Robs Rob, are you Rob Longo?

- *Robs Rob*

Nope

## Disqus Comments Under Kevin Symonds' Article *Deception For Our Times? Questioning Anne a Lay Apostle*

- *Kevin Symonds*  
Ok, thanks!
- *Kelly*  
Wow, you seem to think you know everyone posting.
- *Joan 3*  
Please don't forget that Sister Briega McKenna and Fr. Kevin Scanlan are promoting Medjugorje. Go to their website and you will see pictures of them with two of the seers, from the pilgrimage they took people to in the fall of 2013. You can't have it both ways. I first heard of Anne a lay apostle in 2005, and decided to stay away from her because it was a private revelation; five years later, in the summer of 2010, I was in the Franciscan University of Steubenville bookstore, and I decided to read some of her writings. I am now reading her again, with more understanding, since her writings have an imprimatur. I believe this movement is edifying for our times, and unless the Church speaks otherwise, I will continue to read her volumes, along with being close to the Sacraments. Fr. Trigilio said that we make a mistake when we think of a deeply personal relationship with Jesus \*or\* a Sacramental Communal relationship with the Lord and our Holy Mother Church. He said we are called to BOTH, Jesus desires a deeply personal relationship with each one of us, AND a deep commitment and participation in His One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. These dual relationships are connected in an integral unity in our souls and lives. As far as I can understand in the writings of Anne, this is exactly what she is doing and calling others to do.
  - *Kevin Symonds*  
Miss Joan, I'm sorry but I do not understand what you are trying to say here. Please remember that the people in question once endorsed Kathryn BECAUSE of the Medjugorje connection.
    - *Joan 3*  
Mr. Symonds, you criticized Anne because of her ties to Medjugorje, then you said that Sr. Briega and Fr. Kevin Scanlan no longer endorse Anne. You are holding up Sr. Briega and Fr. Scanlan as examples of what you hope others will do, but Sr. Briega and Fr. Scanlan have closer ties to Medjugorje than Anne, a lay apostle ever did. That was my point.
    - *Kevin Symonds*  
Miss Joan,  
Forgive me, but I must be having a memory lapse. When did I criticize Anne because of her Medjugorje ties? I certainly said nothing about this in my article. Was there a comment I am missing?  
I mentioned Medjugorje in an earlier comment to Robs Rob but that had nothing to do with Anne's ties to Medjugorje, if I recall.
    - *Joan 3*  
Dear Kevin,  
I do forgive you for trying to engage me in a circular argument. I have replied to your article, said what I wanted to say and I will let what I have said stand. If you want to delete my comments, feel free. I wish you well and hope for the best for you but I have no interest in further discussion with you concerning this matter. Thank you.
    - *Kevin Symonds*  
I am not an Editor here at CL and cannot delete your comments. Please communicate your desire either to Miss Chelsea Zimmerman or Mrs. Mary Kochan.
    - *Ottavio*  
I'd like to remember all my Catholic brothers/sisters that we're all sinners, including Ann, and even those who are now in heaven; the saints, – also made mistakes and sinned. Just to name a few; St. Peter denied our Lord, St. Thomas doubted Him many times, St. Padre Pio was also accused of being a fraud and of taking donations for

## Disqus Comments Under Kevin Symonds' Article *Deception For Our Times? Questioning Anne a Lay Apostle*

himself, by some of his own brother priests. And the Catholic Church banned him from saying Mass for 10 years! Is he a fraud now?

So, is Anne also a fake because she sinned/made mistakes in the past? I don't know, it's not my job to judge. That's a job for God. I know she is a sinner like me and you, but this doesn't mean she's a liar! If she is, she will pay for it and sooner or later we'll find out. In the meantime her work is converting people and bringing them back to the Sacraments and the Church. How could this be bad? I don't think that a person could speak this way, unless they are inspired by the Holy spirit.

I'd also like to remind you that there's another mystic, her name is Vassula Rayden, and because of her message (Jesus wish to unite the Catholic and Orthodox Churches) she has received death threats! Is she a liar because of her mission?

- *Kevin Symonds*

Ottavio,

The matter is not whether or not Kathryn Clarke is a sinner. I believe that is common knowledge. The question is, is she or is she not receiving messages from God? Holy Mother Church has given us criteria on how to discern these.

Do the research and then the math and you will come up with the same questions I pose here. Also, Vassula Ryden is a false mystic. Not only has the Catholic Church said she has some questionable stuff, but even the Orthodox church maintains that she is suspect.

- *Kelly*

I believe this is common knowledge? Passive aggressive? Abusive? Hmmm...

- *Kelly*

Thank you Ottavio! You are a gentleman.

- *Kelly*

Abusive people often have "memory lapses". Good excuse.

- *Kelly*

Kevin there is much you don't understand. A fool should try not to speak.

- *Kelly*

Kevin J Symonds, a layman from S. Carolina.

- *I am not Spartacus*

September 1, 2005

Jesus God's little children know great suffering on earth, it is true.

October 1, 2005

Jesus I have willed a time of great joy for My beloved apostles.

I went and read several of the messages and I was struck by the sudden change of speaking "God's little children" in Sept and then suddenly, with no explanation, speaking to them as "My beloved apostles.."

Itchy ears abound in the world but I must write that I am surprised that so few have taken the time to read Richard Salbato's disclosure of the emails she exchanged with another woman

- <http://bornacatholic.blogspot.com/> *Bornacatholic*

Catechism # 857 The Church is apostolic because she is founded on the apostles, in three ways:

– she was and remains built on "the foundation of the Apostles," the witnesses chosen and sent on mission by Christ himself;

– with the help of the Spirit dwelling in her, the Church keeps and hands on the teaching, the "good deposit," the salutary words she has heard from the apostles;

## Disqus Comments Under Kevin Symonds' Article *Deception For Our Times? Questioning Anne a Lay Apostle*

– she continues to be taught, sanctified, and guided by the apostles until Christ's return, through their successors in pastoral office: the college of bishops, "assisted by priests, in union with the successor of Peter, the Church's supreme pastor":

You are the eternal Shepherd  
who never leaves his flock untended.  
Through the apostles  
you watch over us and protect us always.  
You made them shepherds of the flock  
to share in the work of your Son. . . .

I am going to declare myself lay Pope and warn others of these putative locutions. There is no obvious sign of afflatus that I can see and the idea that these putative locutions have been going on for ten years is alone enough to raise a multitude of red flags.

But, that makes no difference to those with itchy ears.

o *Kevin Symonds*

Hi! Thanks for posting.

The Pope has declared that wherever the Magisterium has not issued a judgment or opinion, we are free to express our own—and to manifest it to others in the public forum. You will find this holy teaching of our Faith in Pope Benedict XV's Encyclical "Ad Beatissimi Apostolorum."

Since there has been no judgment on the character of Mrs. Clarke's claims, anyone is free to express doubt on or approval of said character.

Thank you for rendering your opinion! I hope you have taken the time out to evaluate well my opinion.

• <http://bornacatholic.blogspot.com/> *Bornacatholic*

Catechism # 857 The Church is apostolic because she is founded on the apostles, in three ways:

– she was and remains built on "the foundation of the Apostles," the witnesses chosen and sent on mission by Christ himself;

– with the help of the Spirit dwelling in her, the Church keeps and hands on the teaching, the "good deposit," the salutary words she has heard from the apostles;

– she continues to be taught, sanctified, and guided by the apostles until Christ's return, through their successors in pastoral office: the college of bishops, "assisted by priests, in union with the successor of Peter, the Church's supreme pastor":

You are the eternal Shepherd  
who never leaves his flock untended.  
Through the apostles  
you watch over us and protect us always.  
You made them shepherds of the flock  
to share in the work of your Son. . . .

I am going to declare myself lay Pope and warn others of these putative locutions. There is no obvious sign of afflatus that I can see and the idea that these putative locutions have been going on for ten years is alone enough to raise a multitude of red flags.

But, that makes no difference to those with itchy ears.

• <http://bornacatholic.blogspot.com/> *Bornacatholic*

Ut oh,

## Disqus Comments Under Kevin Symonds' Article *Deception For Our Times? Questioning Anne a Lay Apostle*

<http://www.unitypublishing.com/Apparitions/Anna%27sBishop.htm>

I have never heard of this woman until today but my interest was piqued by this piece and I have been checking around and I have not been able to find the letter by Dr. Miravalle.

O, and she is divorced and remarried? Was there a declaration of nullity of her first marriage prior to her remarriage?

o *Kevin Symonds*

Yes, there was—at least she claims. The document has never been provided to the public to verify the claim. However, I have no reason to believe she is not telling the truth about it.

▪ *Kelly*

Really? She needs to provide a document to the public? Let's see your psychiatrist's records of your mental health.

▪ *Anonymous*

Wow...not a charitable reply, Kelly. Why so desperate sounding? Why the hostility? Good fruit? Umm.....

▪ *Kelley*

I believe the one who sounds quite desperate is Kevin Symonds. I am defending an innocent woman of God.

o *Kelly*

She divorced when she was 20 because he was abusing her and her children. She is annulled and remarried to a wonderful loving husband. Thanks be to God.

• *Kelly*

Kevin you are an angry man. I can see this. Kathryn Anne is a very humble woman. She was divorced because her husband abused her and her children. You have left out much about her to benefit your anger. Anyone who reads even one of her Volumes cannot say she is against the Rosary or God. Her Volumes are filled with love and humility. They will inspire you and your faith. Direction for Our Times promotes Rosary groups who pray the Rosary and read from the Volumes. I have attended these groups and was amazed at the lives of the people who go. There are great fruits coming from the Volumes.

o *Praying for you*

Kelly,

Being emotionally attached to these volumes is not spiritually healthy. There is a good chance that they are not supernatural. Even if they are, they should not be the center of your faith. You lash out at Mr. Symonds from an emotional standpoint and the quantity of your recent posts makes me wonder why. His article was factual and not emotional. I was able to research and back up everything he wrote. I was even easily able to find that Karla Fiaoni's name is listed as a supporter of a Chicago judge who is also the "only candidate endorsed four times" by the fiercely pro choice Personal PAC. Easy peasy to find. This was a recent endorsement. Secretary for DFOT???? I think we all need to step back from emotion and let the Church do Her work. And remember, we have a responsibility to use the gifts God has given us for discernment. Sometimes those gifts come in the form of a simple internet search. Many prayers for you.

▪ *Kelley*

I agree. Let the church do her work. Stop persecuting a woman of God.

o *Praying for you still*

To clarify....look at who is on the campaign committee for Judge James Shapiro. Look at the year. It can be found by an easy google of Karla Fiaoni Shapiro placed in the search engine box. Then investigate his endorsements. Go to their pages. It is a scandal.

• *Kevin Symonds*

## Disqus Comments Under Kevin Symonds' Article *Deception For Our Times? Questioning Anne a Lay Apostle*

I would like to address the many comments issued in recent weeks by the user identified as "Kelly."

1) I do not think fair your accusations and motives against my person and/or my argument as presented in the above article.

2) I am well aware of the position of my former professor, Dr. Mark Miravalle, on Kathryn Clarke. Please note that two people having a theological disagreement is not uncommon in the Catholic Church.

3) The Holy See, to my knowledge, still has the dossier sent it by Bishop O'Reilly. Let us await what becomes of this assessment.

Also, if you wish to discuss further Kathryn's case and story, I will be glad to do so. I will invite you over to my house or a public restaurant (whichever you prefer) where we'll enjoy some big ole sweet iced tea (a South Carolina staple).

Thank you for posting!

- *Alberta Hainsworth*

When someone gives their lives to Christ, there are always those whose job it is to tear them down. Guess who you are working for. I find no error in her writings or her life.

- *Kelley*

Very well said Alberta Hainsworth. Thank you. I wholeheartedly agree. May Direction for Our Times be protected from all assaults of the enemy. God bless you and your family.

- *Kevin Symonds*

Dear Miss Alberta,

Thank you for posting. I think you make some unfair presumptions, one of which borderlines character assassination.

-Kevin Symonds

- *John Mck*

I would suggest someone has an abnormal obsession with this lady like a dog snapping at her heels.

- *Kelley*

Agreed. God bless her and her good works.

- *Kevin Symonds*

Mr. Mck,

Can you please demonstrate where the "obsession" is?

Thank you!

-Kevin Symonds

- *Kelley*

Anne is a very humble woman. She was divorced and annulled because her husband abused her and her children. You have left out much about her to benefit your anger/obsession Kevin Symonds. Anyone who reads Jesus' Volumes cannot say Anne is against the Rosary or God. The Volumes are filled with love and humility. They will inspire you and your faith. Direction for Our Times promotes Rosary groups who pray the Rosary and read from the Volumes. I have attended these groups and was amazed at the lives of the people. They are very loving and humble people. There are great fruits coming from the Volumes. These works are clearly from God. The Volumes have an imprimatur now. The church will decide further. So far there has been nothing but good said from bishops and priests.

- *Guy McClung*

Who would ever have thought that the overarching principle, "Follow The Money," would explain this and so much that goes on in our Church today. Augment this principle with the doctrine of Original Sin, Tom Aquinas saying "all men are inclined to evil, and the love of money is the root of all evil, and the human basis for an overwhelming majority of what goes on is crystal clear. I can say this because I have done these sins and I know to my very core this is true; and hopefully no "woe to you hypocrite"

## Disqus Comments Under Kevin Symonds' Article *Deception For Our Times? Questioning Anne a Lay Apostle*

applies since I have tried of late to act not like an earthly sucker, but like an eternity fool. Thank you Kevin. Guy McClung, San Antonio

- *Tami Davenport*

I hav belonged to DFOT for many years. I judge things by their fruits and what I've seen is souls being saved! A call to bring us back to Jesus and to our Catholic faith and a deep respect and loved for our Blessed Mother. What it has done for me personally is true conversion. I feel it is the vehicle that Christ used to bring me closer to Himself and His Church.

I'm curious if Kevin Symonds has read any of the books that DFOT has released or contacted them. I know that in the past DFOT hasn't bothered with the attacks against them, but I do know that this month they are addressing the attacks against them. As to Anne being paid for her work. We all serve in many ways, does a police officer receive a salary for protecting the community? WhT about a fireman? What about Keven Symonds? To expect someone to serve and not be able to take care of themselves and their family isn't far.

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)

Dear lay apostles,

This is a brief letter to inform you of a new position we are taking on a matter which emerged a few years ago. The prudence of this organisation has been heavily borrowed upon and we are now setting a firmer boundary regarding this issue.

Most of you are unaware of this but for the last four and a half years we at DFOT have been the subject of bullying behavior by a religious sister and a priest who works with her. Some priests and lay apostles have been told false stories by them and then sworn to secrecy under the guise of confidentiality. Confused by the request for secrecy, many have phoned to let us know. Indeed, this is how we have come to understand the extent of what has been circulated. We are grateful to the priests and bishops from several countries, as well as religious and lay people, who have not only been disturbed by these actions, but felt it their responsibility to alert us.

In other arenas in the world, this behavior would be classified as character defamation. The entire organization and specific members have been subject to false accusation, and yet never directly, always covertly. We have written reports of this and summaries of how it was done and I have dealt with this in many countries, at every level.

Some prayer groups were instructed by these individuals to stop reading the monthly message and either cease their prayer groups altogether or change them entirely. Others were told they had to burn their books. Letters written by them and people associated with them were passed along to us and are in our possession. Aspersion have been cast on the bishop, the staff and the writings. And again, in most cases, people were sworn to secrecy, suggesting some form of a covert campaign.

Burning books with an official Church Imprimatur? Lay apostles, we are steering our organization into healthy portions of Human Development for a reason. Indeed, as we piloted our human and spiritual development program in high schools in our diocese, we realized that we were advising responses to bullying that we, ourselves, had not implemented. Specifically, we tell the young people that secrecy is a red flag and that we must bring these issues into the light of day.

To be clear, the claims of these individuals have all been examined by the competent authority, Bishop Leo O'Reilly, as well as the official diocesan commission formed to evaluate Anne's experience and the writings, as well as the organization, years ago. The claims of these two people, some of which were specific, were deemed unfounded and objectively false. Furthermore, it must be noted that these individuals have neither competence nor authority to make claims or assessments of any kind.

## Disqus Comments Under Kevin Symonds' Article *Deception For Our Times? Questioning Anne a Lay Apostle*

As stated, these types of actions are not uncommon in the world and can be seen within the Church, at times, in a particularly insidious way, creating confusion and uncertainty. Because we are human, this is inevitable and we know that many of you may have experienced similar situations in your lives. However, we are all responsible for our feelings and how we choose to act upon them. In this situation, several of the people who have alerted us as to what is being said and done, have expressed fear that if we make their name known, they will also be targeted. Clearly we wouldn't do that except to our bishop. Nevertheless, the only mature and transparent action at this point for us is to name this openly and call it unacceptable.

One final reason for sending this email is that as we move into this next phase of the mission we will be drawing a line under this matter. For the last several years we have treated this as a distraction from our work and given it little attention, except when absolutely necessary. In the future, we will be passing along all evidence of further coercive or covert behaviors for the attention and handling of the appropriate authorities, including their own superiors. If you have experienced this behavior please contact me. If you have suggestions for us around this issue, we would like to hear them. In turn, I can help you to understand how this is happening and that you are one of many who have been approached in this way. You can email me at the below email address.

We continue to work hard with you in spreading the many blessings we have received in this Apostolate and we wish to support all lay apostles out in the field working. We thank you for your prayers and remind everyone that this work belongs to Jesus Christ.

Sincerely,

Father Darragh Connolly  
Chaplain  
Direction for Our Times  
[chaplain@dfot.ie](mailto:chaplain@dfot.ie)

Share:

Direction For Our Times relies on donations to supplement the cost of publishing the messages. Currently, only 40% of the publishing cost is covered by the sale of the books. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

Direction for Our Times (DFOT) is a 501(C)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to spreading God's messages as revealed in the Volumes.

If you no longer wish to receive our emails, click the link below:

Unsubscribe

Direction for Our Times 9000 W 81st Street Justice, Illinois 60458 United States (708) 496-9300

- o *Merry Christmas*

1) Only The Lord knows who's souls are saved. Matthew 7:22 should be taken seriously. 2) Feel good feelings from a religious movement are not the litmus test to whether or not this is from God. 3) There is concern about the stance of followers and the lashing out that comes from them when someone takes a cautious approach to this movement. It is our responsibility to be cautious and discern on all levels, not just emotional levels. Followers lash out with fever pitched cries when one has a cautious stance. I have personally been accused of some pretty serious stuff just because I asked to wait and let the Church do Her work before saturating our parish with her Medjugorje rooted messages. I cannot comprehend Anne or DFOT's need to respond to perceived "attacks" because a response shows a lack of peace-filled, Christ-like spirit. Can you imagine The Little Flower responding to "attacks" publicly? Could you imagine fight back from any of our great visionary Saints? They would see the humiliation as gift! They would try to find hope in the self doubt that would come from such "attacks,"

## Disqus Comments Under Kevin Symonds' Article *Deception For Our Times? Questioning Anne a Lay Apostle*

whether just or unjust. And there would be a spirit of charity and peace associated with an authentic movement. Defensive planning by powerful people would not be a part of it. If any if you lash out at me, I will see it as a bad fruit.

- *Kevin Symonds*

Miss Davenport, hello and thank you for posting.

I can confirm that my knowledge of Kathryn Clarke/DFOT is intimately bound-up with her writings.

- *Scary*

The above post is beyond scary. If I read correctly, I understood it to say, "Do not question Anne or DFOT or you will incur the wrath of the Organization." I have a God given responsibility and competency to discern private revelation due to the fact that I am a confirmed Catholic. I cannot disobey a bishop if he bans a revelation in his diocese, period. Yet in this case, even an *impramatur* does not mean that the bishop is correct. If I as a confirmed Catholic see things that don't seem to carry supernatural dignity, if I witness a lack of charity from those closely associated to a movement, if written materials inspire actions which are less than holy or even sinful, then I need to run from such a movement.

- *Anonymous*

CULT