



Priests and Synodality in Australasia

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From Würzburg!

Worldviews



Diocesan Collapse



Functional Priesthood
and Ministry



Trust in the (future)
Synodal Process?



1. Priests are not homogeneous.
2. Priests are not created equal.



“Younger clergy out of step with Catholic laity.”

Thomas Reece



<https://flashesinsight.com/2025/11/04/younger-clergy-out-of-step-with-catholic-laity/>



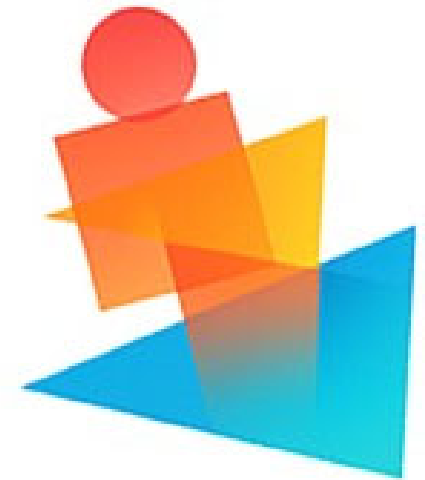


Theological views show an even sharper divide



According to the national priest study, the priests' theological views followed a similar pattern across generations, though “with an even sharper decline in progressivism and a stronger consolidation on the conservative side.” Thus, theological views revealed an even sharper polarization than political views.

Among “priests ordained before 1975, more than 70% described themselves as theologically progressive, while in the 2010-or-later cohort only 8% did so,” the report says.

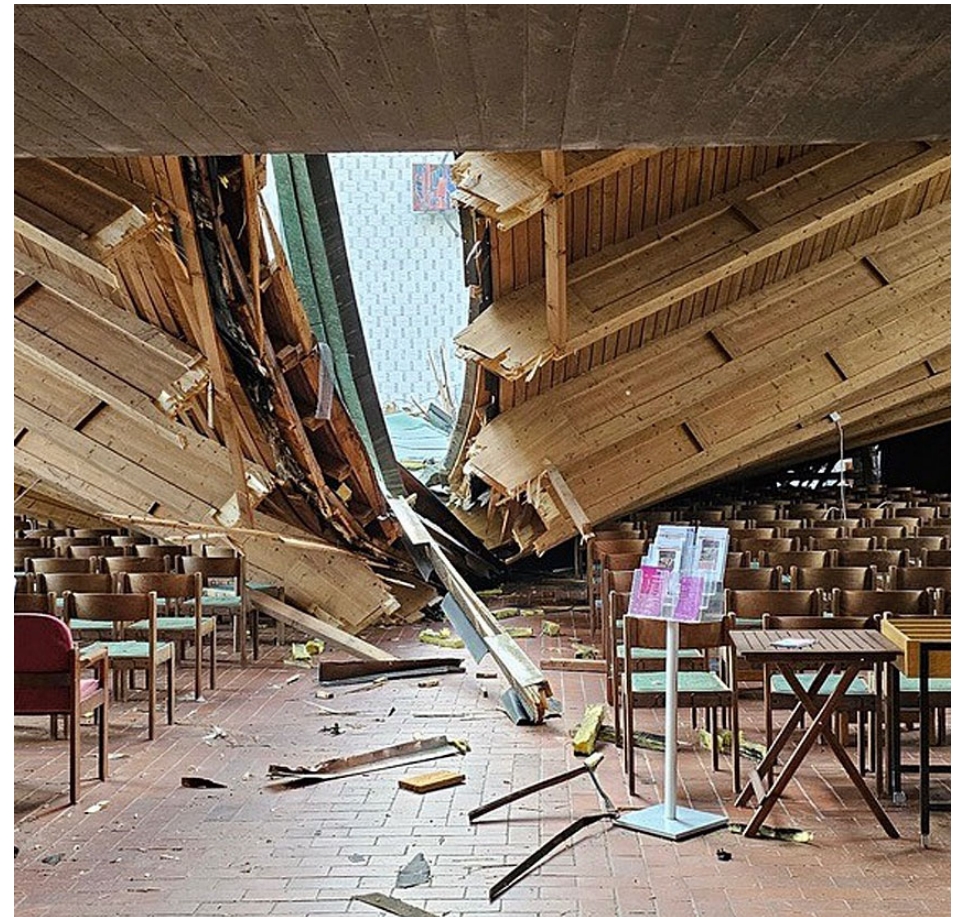




1. Enlightenment
Worldview
2. Sacral Worldview
3. Local Churches in
flux
4. Internationalisation

Lens Two: Diocesan Collapse

1. Dioceses are collapsing not parishes!
2. Theological failure brings infrastructure failure.
3. Importation of seminarians.



1. Function before Theology.
2. Function frames Ministry.

CHARACTER		POINT ALLOC.	
E	D	HP	1
L	5	Stamina	0
S	Priest	Mana	0
S 2	Bishop	Phys. Atk	0
S 3	N/A	Magic Atk	0
		Prot	0
		Co. Atk.	0
		Mobility	0
STATS			
	36		
no	5		

Lens Four: Trust in the *future*

Synodal Process

1. Formation and accompaniment.
2. Buy-in into the synodal process.
3. Agency in a new Church.

