

Because of *faith*

How to better understand and live our faith as one body in Christ.

ABC NEWS: Is the prophecy about the last pope true?



A prophecy that could impact all Christians: Various news reports seem to confirm that the oldest pope ever to be elected, Pope Benedict XVI, is showing signs of old age. At 84, that is to be expected. But according to Saint Malachy, a 12th century Irish monk who has correctly identified every pope since his time, there are prophetic reasons to be concerned that this pope may be the next-to-last pope.

Malachy, while on a visit to Rome in 1139, had a vision of all the popes who would ever reign. Malachy "saw"- and committed to paper- a series of Latin phrases describing the popes to come. Reportedly it was

entrusted to Pope Innocent II in 1140. In the final persecution of the Holy Roman Church there will reign Peter the Roman. Reportedly one other pope had a similar vision which included the annihilation of the Church and Rome. For more detail, read the story below or go to: <http://abcnews.go.com/International/benedict-xvi-pope-irish-prophet-malachy/story?id=8499430#.Tu4Glxwua8>

By KENNETH HAYES, A special to ABC News

The prophecies of the Irish saint Malachy, the 12th century bishop of Armagh who predicted all the popes, have thrilled and dismayed readers for centuries. He has stated there will be only one more pope after the current one, and during his reign comes the end of the world.

"In the final persecution of the Holy Roman Church there will reign Peter the Roman, who will feed his flock amid many tribulations, after which the seven-hilled city will be destroyed and the dreadful Judge will judge the people. The End."

In 1139, then-Archbishop Malachy went to Rome from Ireland to give an account of his affairs. While there, he received a strange vision about the future that included the name of every pope, 112 in all from his time, who would rule until the end of time. We are now at the second last prophecy. His predictions are taken very seriously. As one report states, "In 1958, before the



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A 12th century Irish prophet claimed Pope Benedict XVI would be the second to last Pope with the end of the world coming with the next pontiff's reign.

ABC News Photo Illustration

Conclave that would elect Pope John XXII, Cardinal Spellman of New York hired a boat, filled it with sheep and sailed up and down the Tiber River, to show that he was 'pastor et nautor,' the motto attributed to the next Pope in the prophecies."

As for the prophecy concerning the 111th pope, Pope Benedict, the prophecy says of him, "Gloria Olivae," which means "the glory of the olive."

The order of Saint Benedict is also known as the Olivetans, which many claim makes Malachy's prophecies correct. The next and final pope then should be "Peter Romanus" [Peter the Roman].

St. Malachy gave an account of his visions to Pope Innocent II, but the document remained unknown in the Roman archives until its discovery in 1590.

Many of the prophecies are spot on. For example, the one about Urban VIII is Liliun et Rosa (the lily and the rose); he was a native of Florence and on the arms of Florence figured a fleur-de-lis.

Pope John Paul II is De labore Solis, meaning "of the eclipse of the sun." Karol Wojtyła, who would become Pope John Paul II, was born on May 18, 1920 during a solar eclipse.

Peregrinus apostolicus (pilgrim pope), which designates Pius VI, appears to be verified by his many journeys to new lands.

So is Benedict the second last pope? The Irish seer of the 12th century has said it will be so. Time will tell.

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ABOUT BECAUSE OF FAITH

This website is for everyone seeking to better understand and live their Christian faith journey as powered by the infinite grace, love, power and the very real presence of the Father, Son & Holy Spirit.

Rather than being enslaved by our corrupt human nature, human "knowledge," earthly limitations and futile attempts to be in