

Fr. Michael Scanlan's Amazing Prophecy: An Urgent Message for Today

By Ralph Martin | June 9, 2020

The following text came from [a talk I shared today](#) on [Renewal Ministries' YouTube channel](#). We at Renewal Ministries are using all available means to share this word, due to its importance and relevance, as well as the need for all of us to ponder how God wants us to live out this message in our own lives.

The first big international Catholic Charismatic conference took place in Rome in 1975, and when ten-thousand people gathered in St. Peter's Basilica for the closing Mass, several very strong prophecies were given that spoke of a time coming when the structures that are there wouldn't be there anymore, and that the Lord was going to use this time to draw us into a deeper union with Himself.

One year later, Fr. Michael Scanlan gave another prophecy, which you can read in full at the end of this post. I recently discovered Fr. Scanlan's 1976 prophecy while doing research for a new book, and when I read it, I was almost breathless! It is significant and amazingly resonant with what we have been experiencing with the whole lockdown, not being able to go to churches, economic difficulties, and social unrest. There are things happening today that weren't happening forty-four years ago that are a partial fulfillment, at least, of it. Some of this could be a little scary, but don't get scared. It's going to lead to tremendous love and tremendous hope.

There's wisdom here for us. There's instruction here for us that's very relevant. Below, I am going to go through each section of the prophecy and examine its significance in light of events happening today. The bolded text comes from the prophecy itself.

“Son of man, do you see that city going bankrupt? Are you willing to see all your cities going bankrupt? Are you willing to see the bankruptcy of the whole economic system you rely on now so that all money is worthless and cannot support you?”

When the coronavirus really first hit, and the stock market fell, and tens of millions of people in the US and all over the world lost their job, had their salary reduced, or got laid off, it was really a gut-check time. What are we relying on? Where is our trust?

I did some videos on our [YouTube channel](#) talking about the anxiety we have about our economic well-being ([here](#) and [here](#)), the anxiety and fear we also have about our health ([here](#) and [here](#)), and trying to re-center us on the promises of the Lord. Jesus says, “Where your treasure lies, there your heart will be” (Mt 6:21), and I gave some practical wisdom from St. Francis de Sales about how to see where our hearts are, and how to handle our anxiety and fear concerning money, and the tremendous, wonderful promises of Jesus to provide for us if we seek first his kingdom.

“Son of man, do you see the crime and lawlessness in your city streets, and towns, and institutions?”

Just last night on the news, I was watching riots in a particular town in our country. Here is the key: The world’s going to be shaken. The Church is going to be shaken. Whatever can be shaken will be shaken, says the Book of Hebrews. But the prophecy continues,

“Are you willing to see no law, no order, no protection for you except that which I myself will give you?”

The Lord wants us to come to Him with complete confidence, with complete trust that if we seek first the kingdom of God and his holiness, all these other things will be provided as well. Not only the food, drink, shelter, and clothing we need to preserve life in this world, but the protection we need in the midst of chaos and the breakdown of law and order.

“Son of man, do you see the country which you love and which you are now celebrating—a country’s history that you look back on with nostalgia?”

This was the bicentennial of the US, the two-hundredth anniversary of the founding of our country, when he was giving this prophecy.

“Are you willing to see no country—no country to call your own except those I give you as my body?”

A lot of us are really concerned with what’s happening in our country. I’m talking about the US, but also Canada and many other countries around the world, including Western Europe. There’s an aggressive secularism that wants to stamp out Judeo-Christian values, that’s hostile to Christ and the Church, that wants to punish us, that wants to arrest us, that wants to remove us from social media if we say things that are displeasing to the social elite, that wants to impose a control on the world and a censorship where they don’t want the Word of God to be spoken anymore, but we need to speak it whether it’s convenient or inconvenient. We need the courage of the Lord. We need the fortitude of the Lord. We need the Holy Spirit to give us that courage and fortitude, and we need to be in that right relationship with Him right now.

All of this is in the Bible! Jesus says we have no dwelling place here below; we have no lasting city here below. The apostles say it. Jesus says, “My kingdom is not of this world” (Jn 18:36). Our city is the New Jerusalem that already is being formed in the body of Christ, that’s going to come down on the last day. We need to know that our primary loyalty, our primary family is our brothers in Christ. This is really important.

“Will you let me bring you life in my body and only there?”

We need to be looking to the body of Christ in the Eucharist, but we also need to be looking to the body of Christ in one another and ourselves. While we were doing online Masses, my pastor at Christ the King in Ann Arbor explained many times that Vatican II talks about four ways in which Christ is present to his people:

1. In a very special way in the Eucharist.
2. In the person of the priest.
3. In the Word of God.
4. In our bodies—which are the body of Christ.

1 Corinthians 6 says we are one body, one spirit with Jesus. We're members of one another. When Paul was converted on the road to Damascus, the voice that spoke to him from heaven said, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" Saul was persecuting Christians. Saul was persecuting the body of Christ. Jesus identifies Himself with us and the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit dwelling in us. We need to treasure that and value that, and if some time we're cut off from the Eucharist again, and if we're cut off from the churches again—the physical churches—we need to remember that He's with us, and He's with us in a very strong way in his Word, in one another, and in the indwelling Trinity in our souls.

“Son of man, do you see those churches which you can go to so easily now? Are you ready to see them with bars across their doors, with doors nailed shut? Are you ready to base your life only on me and not on any particular structure?”

We love our churches. We love the buildings. Some of us for many generations have had family members go to particular churches. But all across the developed countries, churches are closing. Thank God for the churches and for the schools that are still open, but many people now can't afford to go to Catholic schools. We need to be prepared for a time when we don't have as many schools as we have now, and we have far fewer than we used to have. And we need to be prepared for a time when we don't have as many church buildings as we have, and we have far fewer than we used to have. We need to be ready for that time, which is coming. Whether it comes through disaster or not, it's just coming by what's happening in the world and what's happening in the Church. It's coming. We need to re-center our lives on the Lord Himself, who is with us every day, and not be so dependent on a building. Be so grateful when the buildings are still there. Be so grateful when we can still go to the Eucharist, which is very special. But we need to not forget that the body of Christ is not limited to the Sacrament. The body of Christ is also our brothers and sisters in the Lord.

“Are you ready to depend only on me and not on all the institutions of schools and parishes that you are working so hard to foster? Son of man, I call you to be ready for that.”

We're being given an opportunity to get ready for that. Maybe we've been given a little warning here in the recent closing of the churches and the economic turndown even for a short time—a little warning shot across our bow, so to speak. The structures of the world aren't stable.

“That is what I am telling you about. The structures are falling and changing—it is not for you to know the details now—but do not rely on them as you have been. I want you to make a deeper commitment to one another.”

We need to meet our fellow Christians in our neighborhoods. We need to meet our fellow Christians in our work environments. We need to start relating together as brothers and sisters in Christ. We need to have little house churches like the Catholic Church had in the beginning. All

the Catholic Church had for the first three-hundred years were those churches—brothers and sisters gathering in small groups in homes, that’s what the Church was until the persecution was lifted. We have to start to build those house churches again. We have to start building those neighborhood relationships. We have to start knowing who our brothers and sisters in Jesus are, to get ready for a time when we can’t gather in any other way.

“I want you to trust one another, to build an interdependence that is based on my Spirit. It is an interdependence that is no luxury. It is an absolute necessity for those who will base their lives on me and not the structures from a pagan world.”

This is not an option if we’re going to survive the coming onslaught of secularization that’s trying to shut down Christ in our culture, that’s coming against the Church, that’s coming against Christians, that’s coming against the Word of God. This is not a luxury, to be in relationship with brothers and sisters in Christ. As Jesus says here, it’s a necessity.

“I have spoken and it will take place. My word will go forth to my people. They may hear and they may not—and I will respond accordingly—but this is my word.”

This is what Jesus says in Scripture, “heaven and earth will pass away, but my Word will not pass away until every bit of it be fulfilled” (Mt 5:18).

“Look about you, son of man. When you see it all shut down, when you see everything removed which has been taken for granted, and when you are prepared to live without these things, then you will know what I am making ready.”

We’ve just seen it all shut down. It’s almost like the Lord was saying, “You’re going to be given a sign.” That sign didn’t happen for forty-four years, but it’s just happened.

When you have gotten ready, when you have responded to the warning by putting Jesus first in your life and seeking out your brothers and sisters in Christ and starting to get real in relationships with each other, it says, **“then you will know what I am making ready.”**

Everything that’s spoken about here is because of God’s love. What is it going to take to wake up souls? What is it going to take to shake us out of our complacency, our lukewarmness, our indifference to the things of God, and our worldliness, and to re-center our lives on Jesus? What is it going to take to get us into relationship with one another and to make us willing to be his witnesses in a hostile environment? What is it going to take?

The Lord’s going to do what He needs to do to wake up as many of us as possible. Some will pay attention, some will listen, some will awaken, some will get ready—and some won’t. There will be very different outcomes, depending on how we respond to God’s word or not. Not just in this prophecy, but in Scripture. This prophecy is bringing to the present a warning that is right there in the Scripture all the time. Jesus says, when the Master comes, don’t be asleep (Mk 13:35-36). Not everyone who says, “Lord, Lord” is going to get into the kingdom of God. It’s going to be only those who do the will of God (Mt 7:21).

The door is going to shut at a certain time. The door of grace and mercy is going to shut when the Lord returns, and those who have responded to grace and mercy are going to be welcomed into the Father's kingdom. Those who have not paid attention to prophetic warnings, not paid attention to prophetic signs, are going to be left outside, where there's going to be mourning, weeping, and gnashing of teeth. The door is going to close. Get ready.

I believe the Lord is showing mercy to us in this [prophecy from Fr. Michael Scanlan](#). I think it's a prophecy that's starting to be fulfilled in our time. We need to take it seriously. We need to not live in fear, not live in anxiety, but live in the glorious freedom of the sons and daughters of God, who know that the Father loves them and who know that the Father has providential care for them and will never let anything happen to us that He doesn't have a way to bring good out of and that He doesn't protect us in the middle of.

So, brothers and sisters, I'm excited by this word. I think it's a word for today, a word for us now. It's nothing different than what Jesus and the apostles have been saying for two-thousand years. It's time to wake up. It's time to get with each other. It's time to not depend on external things, but to depend on the Lord Himself.

Lord, thank You that the gift of prophecy is alive and working in the Church today. Thank You for Fr. Michael Scanlan. Thank You for allowing us to talk about these things together and to encourage and build one another up.

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[Fr. Michael Scanlan's 1976 Prophecy](#)

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Son of man, I call you to be ready for that. That is what I am telling you about. The structures are falling and changing—it is not for you to know the details now—but do not rely on them as you

have been. I want you to make a deeper commitment to one another. I want you to trust one another, to build an interdependence that is based on my Spirit. It is an interdependence that is no luxury. It is an absolute necessity for those who will base their lives on me and not the structures from a pagan world. I have spoken and it will take place. My word will go forth to my people. They may hear and they may not—and I will respond accordingly—but this is my word.

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