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Letter to the Editor,

In response to Rev. Stechschulte article of 7-29-16 "Taking a leap of faith for eternity".

I think Catholics basically believe that if you're born Catholic, faithfully attend Church, don't commit mortal sins and you have purgatory, what could possibly go wrong.

Expressing the Catholics major false doctrine the Reverend writes: "Eternity rests on our willingness to believe and live a good moral, God-centered life. I would rather place my bet on accepting the gift of faith that God offers and do everything I can to get to heaven, than to risk an eternity in hell. If it turns out there is nothing after this life, then who cares. We'll all rot in the ground together. But if there is...? I don't want to risk it."

As a Catholic at age seven I was taught about heaven and hell, I was worried about going to hell. The Holy Spirit's conviction was leading me to seek forgiveness. Eventually our catechism teacher read John 3:16 to us "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Upon hearing this my faith was based 100% on Jesus and His word. My sins were forgiven, past, present and future and I was baptized and sealed by the Holy Spirit. I did not fully realize all the theology behind this but that didn't minimize what happened; a big thank you to the young lady who was teaching us.

The Jesuits are credited with saying "Give us a child until he is seven and we will have him for life". Are you a Catholic because you were born one? If you were born a Muslim or a Hindu or a Jew would you still be the same today? Do you care more about what the Catholic Church says than what God's word says? Are you concerned more about your eternal life or earthly life?

Paul: "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works... For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived... But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost" Titus 2:11-14; 3:3-5.

Believe in Jesus victory over sin. I'm not going to rot in the ground or hell; read God's word, seek Him with your whole heart!

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