

The Insurrection of the Chieftains

Rt. Rev. Sergio Carranza, The Angelus, October 2005

It seems that what some of us have been expressing loud and clear all along since the meeting of the last General Convention –about a *coup d'état* in the Anglican Communion- is about to happen: Peter Akinola, Primate of Nigeria, will be proclaimed titular head of the Un-anglican Conjunction, a motley assemblage of Third World provinces, dioceses, and individuals, of the Fundamentalist persuasion.

Our domestic conspirators and their financial sponsors keep telling everybody that Latin America is part of the conservative faction, and therefore part of the complot, but that is a misrepresentation, because the only renegade province in Latin America is the Anglican Church of the Southern Cone, which is the least numerous, the least Anglican and the least Latin American. The Anglican/Episcopal Church of Brazil, the Anglican Church of the Central Region of America, and the Anglican Church of Mexico, are loyal members of the Anglican Communion and find themselves in good terms with ECUSA and the Canadian Church, respecting their polity and autonomy.

Trevor Grundy, writing in “*News.scotsman.com*” on September 11th, 2005, indicates that there will be a meeting next month in Alexandria, Egypt, in which the Archbishop of Nigeria will be enthroned as the Primate of a schismatic church (I believe the technical term is **sect**) devoted to preserve biblical “orthodoxy” and “traditional” morality.

Peter Akinola, who is not known particularly by his modesty, prudence or charity, has had the nerve to call for the expulsion of the Church of England from the Anglican Communion and the severance of ties with the Archbishop of Canterbury. It would be funny if it were not such a tragic *faux pas* on the part of someone who appears to have lost all sense of reality.

It is very sad indeed to see how our beloved Anglican Communion is being rent asunder by an unholy combination of gross ambition, bad hermeneutics, poor ecclesiology, conservative money and plain homophobia.

I would like to invite my brothers Peter Akinola, Henry Orombi, Drexel Gomez and Gregory Venables to ponder this: when they eventually get to the table of the heavenly banquet, they will find that we, the despicable *revisionists*, also have reserved seats, and that we all shall be seated next to Jesus’ favorite guests: publicans, prostitutes and sinners who, like us, do not trust in their own righteousness, but in God’s manifold and great mercies.