

# 'Lindy' list may be part of character-building revival

Are we on the verge of a character-building revival in America?  
 We might be - judging from the response to an offer made in my column recently. Anyone who asked for it received a list of 59 character traits, which could be the basis for a personal character-building program to promote ordinary goodness in ordinary people.

I've already received requests from readers in 38 states plus schools, newspapers, radio stations, law offices and Kiwanis clubs.

The character list was once thought to be created by Charles Lindbergh, but, in a letter to me just before his death in 1974, the famous flyer repudiated any connection with the list, which originally appeared in a national magazine in 1930.

But, to me, the principles of the list sounded

like Lindbergh, who was known as a straight arrow for his self-discipline and sterling character. Through the years, I continued to publish the 59 principles during Lent. Stretching the letter of the truth a bit, I called the list "Lindy's 59."

This year, as the country's moral character continues to decline, I decided to send readers their personal copies of "the 59" to help them keep track of their own moral progress.

"Not only is this a wonderful idea, it comes at a crucial time in the life of America," wrote a woman in Napa, Calif.

Emmett Gruici of the Kiwanis Club of Phoenixville, Pa., wrote, "I would like to distribute 'Lindy's 59' to those in our community who are concerned about character education and virtues."



**george plagenz**

• saints & sinners

A few years ago, Gruici attended a national seminar on character education at Lehigh University.

"It was a surprise - in fact, a shock," he writes, "to learn that no course in character education was offered by any college to students majoring in teaching."

Gruici believes a good motto for educators would be, "First make kids good, then smart."

He thinks we've got the order reversed.

"For eight years," says Gruici, "we in the Kiwanis Club of Phoenixville have been trying to initiate a program of character education in our school district. Finally, we were able to convince our superintendent to allow us to sponsor in all the fourth grades in our district a program of character education administered by the Boy Scouts of America. I feel that your column can be of support to our program."

Most of us wouldn't expect to find "sleep and rest" on a list of character traits, but there it is in "Lindy's 59." In his book, "Sabbath: Finding Rest, Renewal, and Delight in Our Busy Lives" (Bantam Doubleday Dell, 2000), Wayne Muller explains how tiredness and lack of rest contribute to the violence in the world.

"We make war on our bodies," he says, "push-

ing them beyond their limits. We make war on our children because we cannot find enough time to be with them when they are hurt and afraid. We make war on our neighbors because we are so fearfully protecting what we have that we do not feel safe enough to be kind and generous."

Jeremy Rifkin, author of "Time Wars" (Henry Holt, 1987), warns us that unless we slow down in our lifestyles and rest, mankind's future may be in doubt.

"We know now," he writes, "that the fast-paced life is utterly incompatible with the biological rhythm of our bodies and the natural world."

(For a copy of "Lindy's 59," send a SASE to Lindy, P.O. Box 06174, Columbus, OH 43206-0174.)

# Pope John's visit to Greece will create rifts in the Orthodox Church

By Patrick Quinn

*Associated Press Writer*  
 ATHENS, Greece — High in the thyme-covered hills outside Athens, inside a half-built church, a wooden icon has drawn more than 10,000 Orthodox Christian faithful to see what they consider a miracle.

They believe the Madonna at St. Nektarios church is bleeding from the neck. Since mid-March, pilgrims have crowded into an incense-filled chamber to leave offerings and pray for cures.

For some Orthodox zealots, the stains on the icon mean something else: a lament that Pope John Paul II is planning his first papal visit to Greece.

The scheduled May 4-5 stop in Athens is the first leg of a five-day pilgrimage following the footsteps of the Apostle Paul. The pontiff will then travel to Syria and Malta.

Greece will not be the pope's first visit to an Eastern Orthodox nation. It is likely to be the most contentious — and possibly unleash some of the loudest protests in the pope's 23 years of world travels.

"Blood may be spilled because of this visit," said the Most Rev. Nektarios Moulatsiotis, who represents a strongly conservative faction within the Orthodox church.

"There will be great fanaticism ... People will take to the streets," said Moulatsiotis, who is best known here as the manager of a popular rock group of Orthodox monks.

The outrage toward the pope springs from deep within the Greek psyche.

Greek clerics see themselves as the caretakers of the "true" Christianity: the various Eastern Orthodox churches that encompass more than 200 million

followers worldwide. The Orthodox split with the Vatican more than 1,000 years ago in a dispute over papal authority. The pope is regarded by some Orthodox as the leader of a wayward flock.

"The two-horned, grotesque monster of Rome" is how the pope was described by Greece's clerical union, which represent parish priests.

And there is even more baggage weighing down Greek perceptions of Roman Catholics.

The Crusaders are blamed for one of most painful moments in Greek history: the sacking in 1204 of Constantinople, the seat of the Orthodox Byzantine empire. The city, now Istanbul, fell to the Muslim Ottoman Empire two centuries later.

In modern times, the Vatican is often accused of trying to extend its influence

in the Orthodox heartland through Eastern Rite churches, which follow many Orthodox traditions but are loyal to the pope.

Caught in the middle of the storm is the leader of the Greek Orthodox Church, Archbishop Christodoulos.

He and other prominent clerics support the papal visit. But a diverse collection of self-anointed Orthodox protectors — from black-clad widows to monks who follow the ancient Julian calendar — vow to mobilize protests and fly black flags at every stop of the pope's visit.

Christodoulos helped give the Orthodox fringe unity and credibility last year. He led huge rallies in opposition to the government's plans to strip religious affiliation from identity cards.

Now, the mix of faith and ultra-patriotism he brewed threatens to spill

over during the papal visit.

"We are trying to control things. We are telling them to stay calm," Christodoulos said. "This has wider ecclesiastical dimensions. Can you imagine the image of people holding up and waving crosses?"

He said the church's governing body agonized for nearly a year before taking its decision to welcome a pilgrimage by John Paul II.

"We had torturous meetings to decide," Christodoulos said. "We decided we could not say no. A bad image of the church — that we are fundamentalists, non-Europeans — would take root."

Friends and foes alike say that image is already widespread, fueled by Christodoulos in the three years since he became leader of Greece's state religion. More than 90 percent of its 11 million people are baptized into the

church. There are only about 50,000 Roman Catholics.

Among the 16 Orthodox churches, the Greek branch had been one of the Vatican's foremost critics.

"Fringe ecclesiastical organizations, with the silent support of a segment of the clergy, are already on a war footing, deeming the papal visit a religious sacrilege," columnist Petros Papaconstantinou wrote in the daily Kathimerini. "Regrettably, Archbishop Christodoulos himself has provided ideological grounds for this religious fanaticism."

"He's on a tightrope," said Metropolitan Chrisostomos of Zakynthos, who supports the papal visit.

Christodoulos has tried to appease critics by saying he will discuss concerns about the Eastern Rite churches with the pope.



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 Fifth & Broadway  
 899-7368  
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 Worship Service: 10 am  
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 Morning Worship: 10:30 am  
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**Church of Christ**  
 401 Caldwell  
 899-6185  
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**Wednesday:** Bible Study: 7 pm

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**Pastor:** Matthew Delp  
 Third & Caldwell  
 899-2080 or 899-3797  
**Sunday:** Sunday School: 9:45 am  
 Worship Service: 10:50 am  
 Evening Service: 6 pm  
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**First Baptist Church**  
**Pastor:**  
 Fifth & Center • 899-3450  
**Sunday:** Sunday School: 9:15 am  
 Morning Worship: 10:30 am  
 Evening Worship: 6 pm  
**Tuesday:** Mens' Prayer Group: 5:30 am  
**Thursday:** Ladies' Bible Study: 10 am

**Seventh Day Adventist Church**  
**Pastor:** Bobby Potter • 332-3956  
**Saturday:** Sabbath School: 9:30 am  
 Worship Service: 11 am

**First Christian Church**  
*(Disciples of Christ)*  
**Pastor:** Loren Strait  
 Eighth & Arcade • 899-5233  
**Sunday:** Sunday School: 9:15 am  
 Worship Service: 10:30 am  
**Activities:** Junior High & High School Youth Groups, Adult Bible Study, Choir, Men's and Women's Groups, Devotions Study, Monthly Fellowship  
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 1116 Sherman  
 899-3631  
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**Minister:** Tony Kafka  
**Youth Minister:** Doug Bean  
**Sunday:** Worship Service: 9:30 am  
 Sunday School: 10:45 am  
**Wednesday:**  
 Junior/Senior High Meeting: 7 pm  
 Adult & Children's Classes: 7 pm

**Emmanuel Lutheran Church**  
 13th & Sherman • 899-6161  
**Pastor:** Scott Grimshaw  
**Sunday:** Sunday School: 8:45 am  
 Worship Service: 10 am  
**Wednesday:** Confirmation: 6 pm

**Kanorado United Methodist Church**  
**Pastor:** Leonard Cox  
 399-2468  
**Sunday:** Sunday School: 9 am  
 Worship Service: 10:15 am

**Goodland Bible Church**  
 109 Willow Road • 899-6400  
**Pastor:**  
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 Morning Worship: 11 am  
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**Wednesday:** Call for location

**Grace Fellowship Church**  
 104 E. Hwy 24 • 899-6423  
**Pastor:** Bob Snyder • Residence: 899-0134  
**Sunday:** Sunday School: 10 am  
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**St. Paul's Episcopal Church**  
 13th & Center  
 899-2115 or Rectory 899-2114  
**Priest:** Father Charles Schneider  
**Deacon:** Gretchen Talitha  
**Saturday:** Church School: 4 pm  
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**Wednesday:** Bible Study: 7 pm  
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 223 E. 10th  
 899-5250  
**Pastor:** John Coumerilh  
**Sunday:** Worship Celebration & Kids' Church: 10:30 am

**United Methodist Church Brewster:**  
**Pastor:**  
 Worship Service: 10:45 am CST  
 Sunday School: 9:45 am CST  
**Winona:**  
**Minister:** Rev. Bob Winters  
 Worship Service: 9 am CST  
 Sunday School: 10:15 am CST

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 La Luz Del Mundo  
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**Sunday:** Sunday School: 10 am

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