

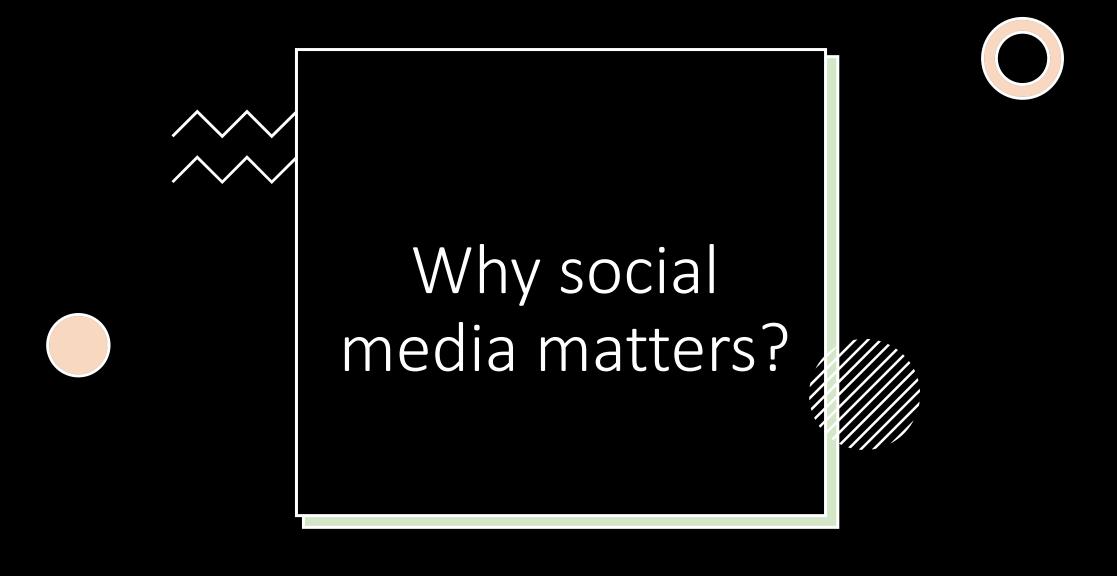


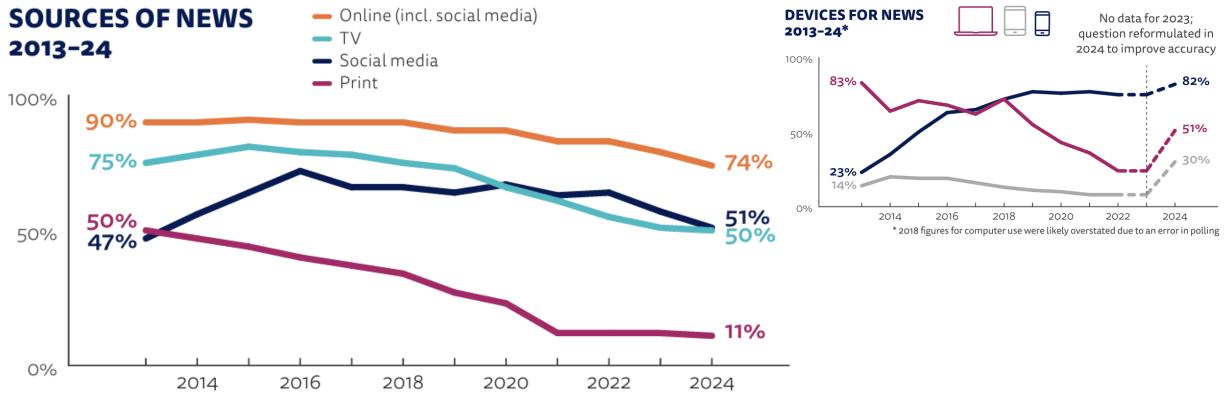
Video of religious sisters at work and play goes viral





Discernimento e presenca da Vida Religiosa Consagrada nas Midias Socialis





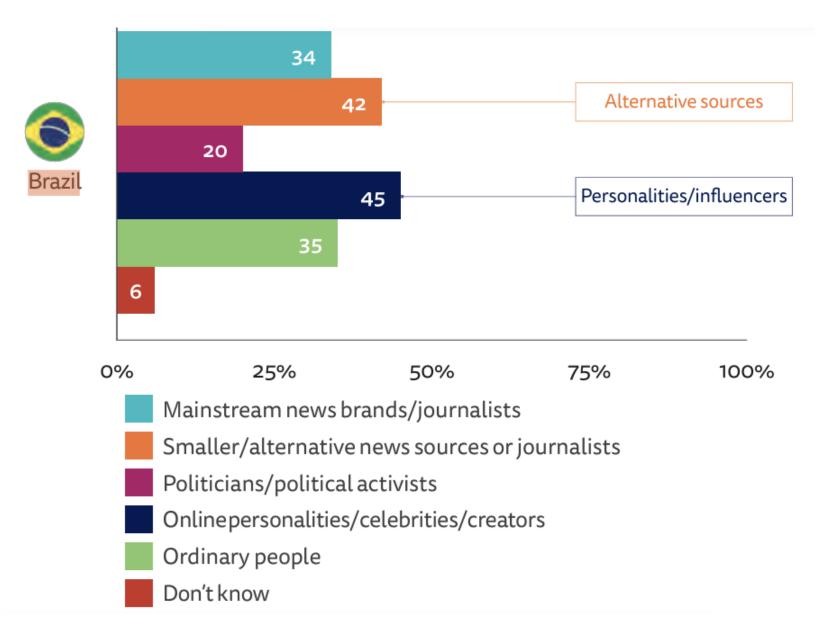
TOP SOCIAL, MESSAGING, AND VIDEO NETWORKS

Rank	Brand	For News	For All
<u>\(\mathbb{O} \)</u> 1	WhatsApp	38% (-5)	68%
You Tube 2	YouTube	38% (-3)	64%
0 3	Instagram	36% (-3)	58%

Rank	Brand	For News	For All
f 4	Facebook	29% (-6)	51%
Tiktok 5	TikTok	14% (-1)	28%
∭ 6	X (formerly Twitter)	9% (-5)	16%

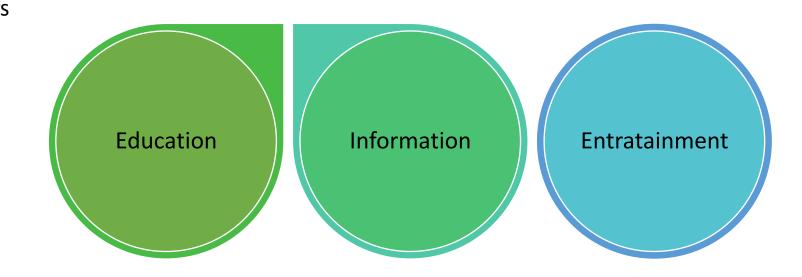
Reuters DNR 2025





Media - 4th Pillar of Power

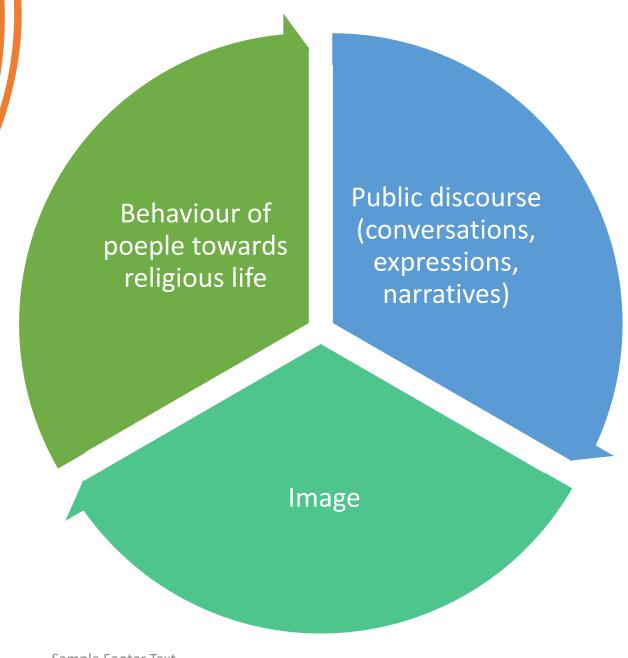
Gatekeepers Who is a journalist? Who is the source?



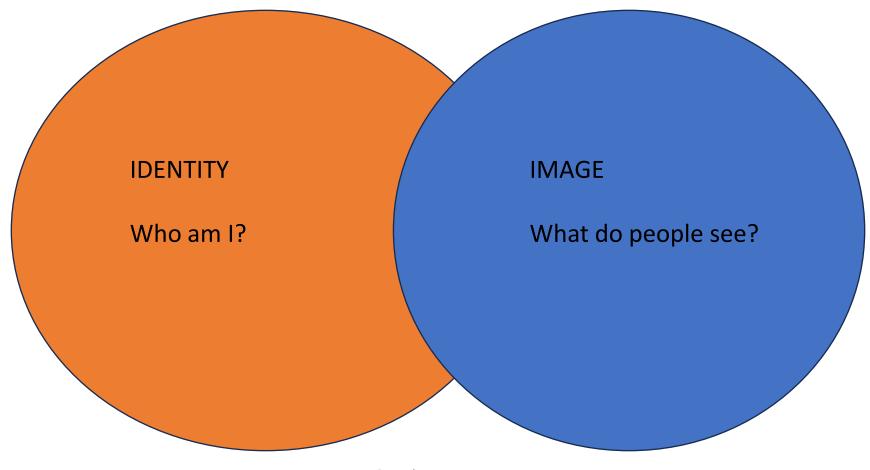
"Hybrid Media System"

- Blend of traditional and digital media forms
- Social media influence how news is produced and consumed.
 Challenging the economic sustainability in media: audiences and advertisers.
- Journalistic standards "attention economy" (Franck 2019).
- De-professionalization of journalism; accuracy, quality, declining standards
- "Newsfluencers" (Hugo Decrypte)
- Podcasters

How does this affect the reality of consecrated life?

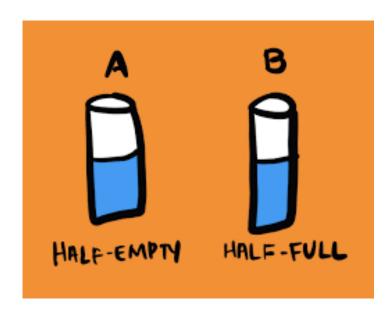


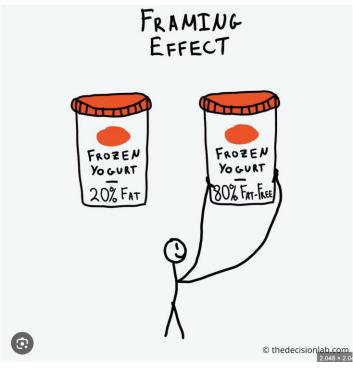
Identity and image



How is image created?

- Institutional communication
- Leader
- Every member ambassadors
- Service/Products
- Famous individuals
- What others say: media and influential individuals
- Associations, memories, experience





Framing

- Schemata of interpretation (Goffman, 1974)
- The process by which a communication source constructs and defines people/events/issues for his audience. (Nelson et al, 1997)
- This happens through "persistent patterns of cognition, interpretation and presentation, of selection, emphasis, and exclusion, by which symbolhandlers routinely organize discourse" (Gitlin, 1980)

Framing in legacy media



Following Trump's trend, local politicians use 'invasion' to describe immigration

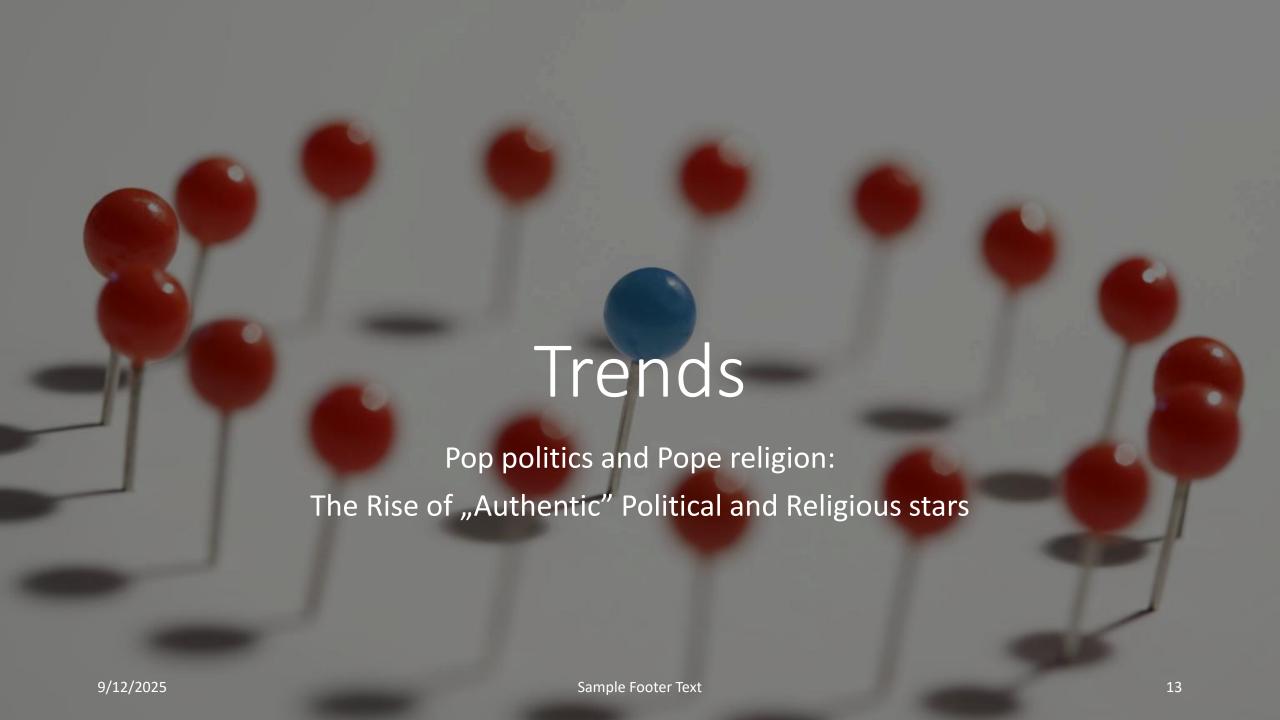
Crime Rates of Illegal Migrants Underreported

Legal immigrants follow the law, but illegal immigrants, even apart from their illegal presence, commit more crimes than the natives.









Language & Style

- A **style** one uses to construct his ideas is **equally relevant as ideas** themselves (Vuković & Krapić 2025)
- Personalized style
- Celebrity Style
- Authenticity
- Populism (expression of content and style)
- Self scandalization

- Anti- institutional age
- Family patterns distrupted
- Personalization: increased media interest in people and leaders and their personal characteristics, often at the expense communities and programs they represent. Members use personal cues to communicate to the media and audiences. Increased interes about the private life "man behing the suit" Rise of a private persona.











Trump criticised after posting AI image of himself as Pope

4 May 2025

Max Matza BBC News





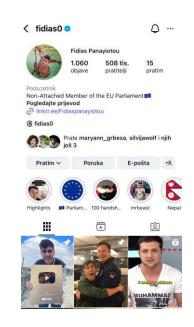




O 439K

111 47M









42K

17 59K



Pop Culture

- popular among a majority of people", in contrast to high culture which primarily engages an "elite" minority.
- Podcasts, social media, music, dance... tool to mobilize and engage the people
- engaging with **social media** can create and preserve **affective bonds**, like the relationships between celebrities and their fans
- Avoiding gatekeepers



Celebritization & Celebrification

- Personalization + Pop culture "societal and cultural changes implied
 by celebrity" (Driessens, 2013, p.
 643).
- Three main indicators of the celebritization of society: "democratization," "diversification," and "migration" (Driessens, 2013: 643).
- hyperproduction of celebrities
- Celebrity style: adopting behaviour, media when the media draws from entertainment discourse to report (Street, 2018, p. 3)



Getty Images

355 mil followers

Kim Kardashian (Celebrity)

TWITTER/X INSTAGRAM TIKTOK

Kim Kardashian (born October 21, 1980) is an American reality television personality and businesswoman. The daughter of prominent attorney Robert Kardashian and Kris Jenner, Kardashian first rose to prominence as a socialite in Paris Hilton's circle. After her sex tape with singer Ray J was leaked in 2007, Kardashian gained significant media

🕻 chiaraferragni 💠



Chiara Ferragni 🦙

17,3 tis. objave

28,3 mil. pratitelji

2.811 pratim

Javna osoba

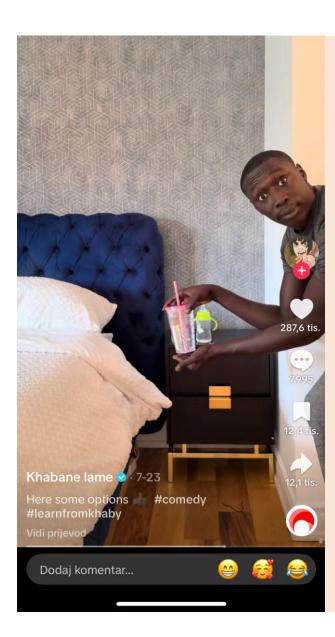
Leone and Vittoria's mama and entrepreneur from Italy

Founder @chiaraferragnibrand @chiaraferragnibeauty CEO of @theblendssalad @tbscrewagency 💞

www.chiaraferragnibrand.com/collection...



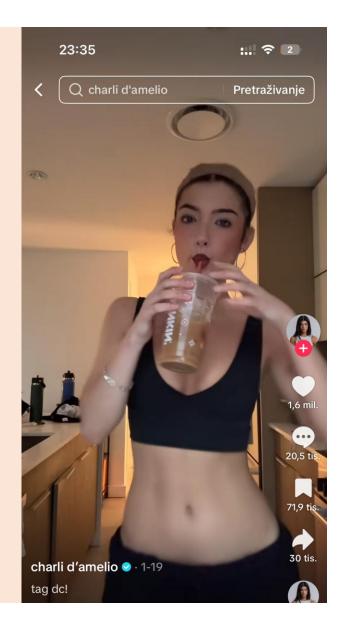
Our AI Future Is WAY WORSE Than You Think | Yuval Noah Harari



Internet personalities

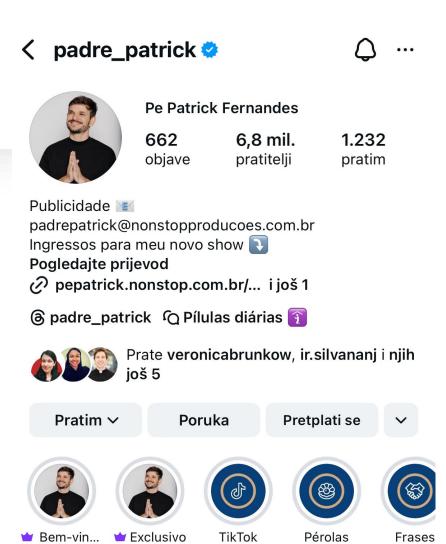
- 161, 5 mil.
- 156,4 mil.

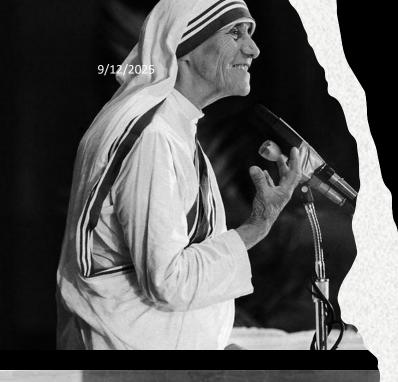
- In the social media environment, influencers have emerged as a new form of celebrity.
- Unlike traditional celebrities, influencers do not depend on industry gatekeepers or mainstream media. Instead, they achieve fame independently, creating their digital persona, content, audience, and community.



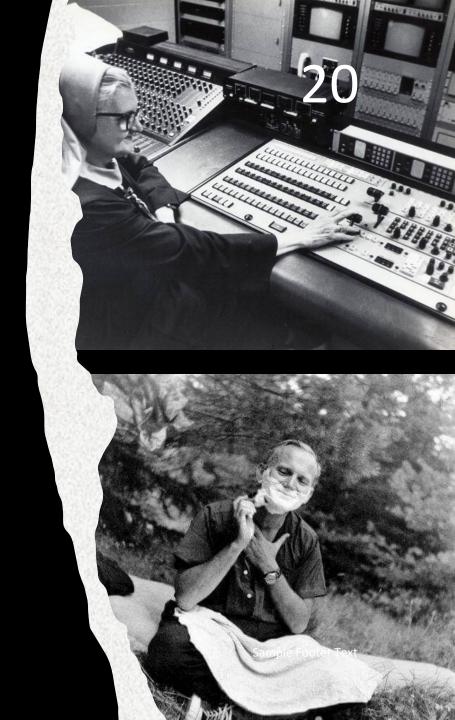
What does this mean for religious life?

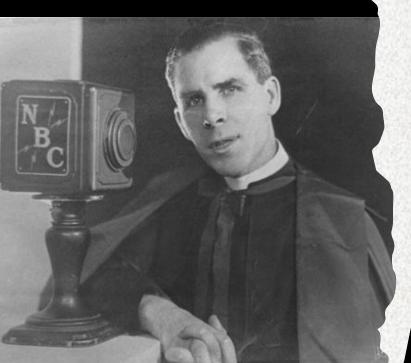
- Hybrid image creation (traditional media, cinema... social)
- Personalization
- Engaging with popular culture
- Hyperproduction of Catholic Celebrities





Catholic Celebrities: the beginning





Pop sisters

SISTER ACT

Sister Act was one of the most financially successful comedies of the early 1990s, grossing \$231 million worldwide against a \$31 million budget. Its success

The Nun grossed \$117.4 million in the United States and Canada, and \$248.6 million in other territories, for a total worldwide gross of \$366 million, against a production budget of \$22 million, becoming the highest-grossing film in the franchise. [2] Deadline Hollywood calculated the net profit





On June 13, 2018, a teaser trailer was released.^[23] In August 2018, a short advertisement for the film was removed from YouTube due to an unskippable jump scare that violated the platform's "Shocking Content" policies.^[24] The studio spent an estimated \$90 million on prints and advertisements for the film.^[25]

Reality shows and talent shows

Nun Thanks God After Winning Italy's The Voice

Sister Cristina Scuccia wows the audience with her rendition of What A Feeling and walks away with a record contract.

By Nick Pisa, Sky News Reporter

(1) Friday 6 June 2014 10:17, UK



"I'm not here to start a career but because I want to send out a message, to evangelise and bring Jesus even here."

Special Guest at 'The Voice': Pope Francis Cheers for Suor Cristina

ITALY | Tue. 04/01/2014 - 01:00









In an unprecedented turn of events, Pope Francis appeared as special guest on talent show The Voic of Italy to support Suor Cristina's performance and evangelical message.

At the end of March, Suor Cristina Scuccia, a 25-year-old member of the Ursuline Sisters, took the world by storm when she appeared on the Italian version of talent show "The Voice" performing Alicia Keys' 'No One'. Her video went viral on YouTube reaching a record 30 million visualizations in a week, with Alicia Keys and Whoopi Goldberg tweeting about her. During that first appearance,

"My aim was to say that I have encountered Jesus. I have a gift and God gave me that gift and I have used it to say that God has taken nothing away from me.

"The priorities in my life are prayer, getting up early and teaching at my school. I will never give up on my vows and the greatest love of my life for a singing career."

Her victory has led to comparisons with the Whoopi Goldberg movie Sister Act in which the actress portrays a singing nun. Goldberg has sent her congratulations and endorsed her in previous rounds.



Vencedora do The Voice, freira italiana deixa vida religiosa para virar cantora e trabalha como garçonete

'Nunca vi conflito entre religião e música porque fiz meu noviciado no Brasil', diz Cristina

Por O Globo 22/11/2022 05h01 · Atualizado há 2 anos

Vencedora do The Voice, freira italiana deixa vida religiosa para virar cantora e











This article is more than 2 years old

Jun who wowed The Voice of Italy ecomes waitress in Spain

ristina Scuccia, who stunned judges in 2014 contest, plains decision to leave nunhood on talkshow



Sister Cristina Scuccia smiles after winning the Italian version of The Voice in Milan in 2014. She

Most viewed



Jeffrey Epstein's 50th birthday book - in pictures



Photo of novelty check suggests Epstein 'sold' Trump a woman for \$22,500



Qatar says it will not tolerate 'reckless Israeli behaviour' amid global condemnation of Doha strike - Middle East crisis live



Israel launches airstrikes against top Hamas members in Qatar for Gaza ceasefire talks



Serbia 0-5 England: World Cup 2026 qualifying Group K-as it happened



Isola dei Famosi 2023, l'ex suora Cristina Scuccia è la vincitrice morale (e ha un misterioso amore)

Dopo averla vista con il velo a The Voice, il reality di Mediaset ci ha fatto conoscere meglio l'ex suor Cristina, che non è mai caduta nelle trappole delle provocazioni

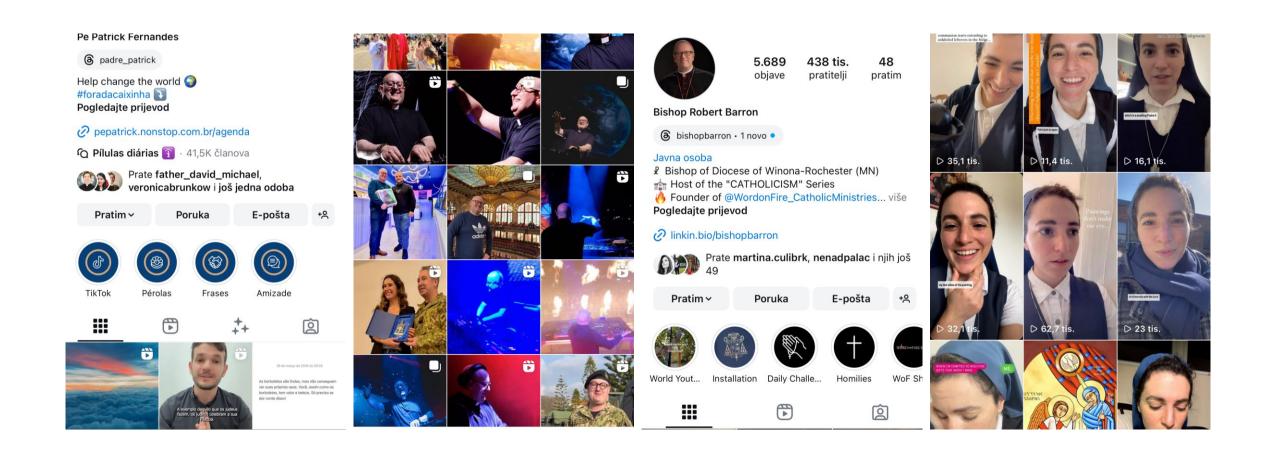




On 20 November 2022, she was a guest on the Italian program Verissimo by Silvia Toffanin, in which she announced that she had given up her perpetual vows to be able to devote herself full-time to a musical career.^[17]

sur conete — Foto: Reprodução/Redes sociais

9/12/2025 Sample Footer Text

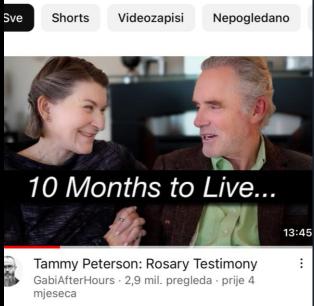


Today





- ✓ Who is communicating Catholicism and the Catholic Church?
- ✓ Who is creating the image of consecrated life?
- ✓ Shifting authority (Campbell 2007) Orthopraxy
- ✓ Celebrities, consecrated, lay, sportsman, ordinary people online...
- ✓ Language: Institutional; the Church and politics: distant, archaic and "boring" (it takes effort to understand)

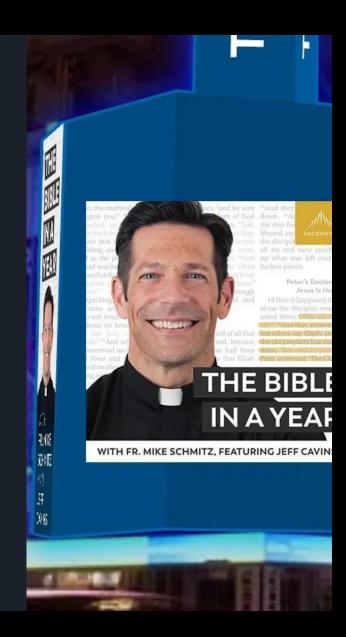




Categorization (Krapić 2023,2025)

✓ *Celebrity* catholic

✓ Catholic *celebrity*



Celebrity Catholics and Catholic celebrities

- Religion+ Pop culture + personalization
- Involvement in traditional and digital media outside of the "conventional" formats.
- Film, TV shows, music (worship music), podcast, social media, apps...
- Celebrity friends
- Closeness to followers as if they were fans





padre.guilherme Música electrónica, diferentes gerações, solidariedade e fé no apoio aos Bombeiros Voluntários de Sobral de Monte Agraço (PT).

31JAN25

#melodictechno #electronicmusic #dance #dancemusic #music #padreguilherme #dj #photography #techno #fotografia #festival

2. veljače · Pogledajte prijevod





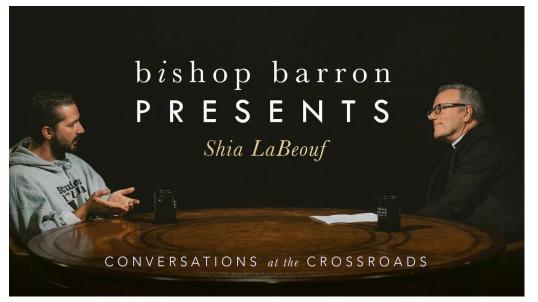


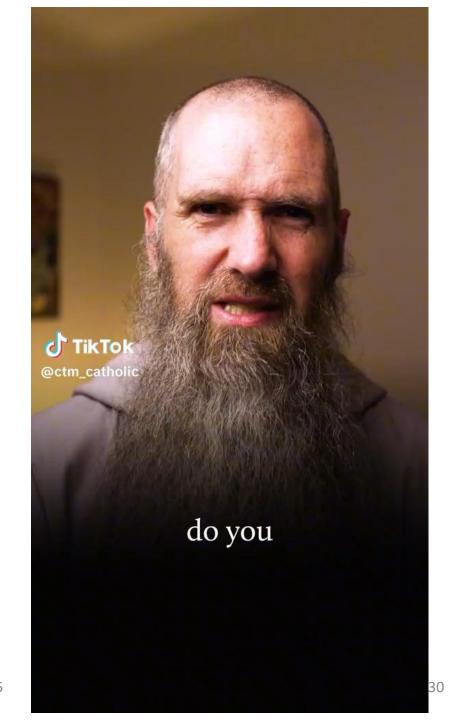
Stepping outside of traditional Papal frame.



Pop culture meets religion







Sample Footer Text 9/12/2025



Hallow Makes History Taking #1 Spot in App Store





APPS AND PODCASTS



Entertainment pop religion in social media



IT'S YOU AND ME - Breaking Barriers: A Nun's Rap Journey (Official Music Video English) | Hip Hop





Le me entertain you...









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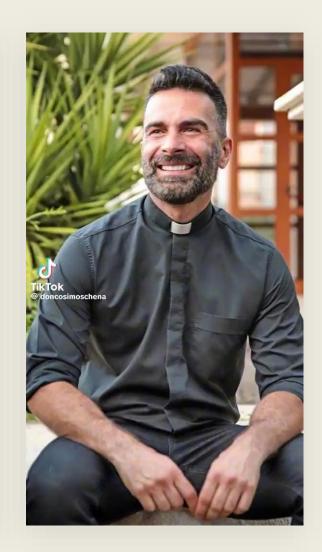


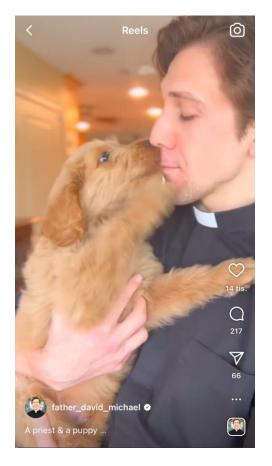
Gym Bros – fitness influencers















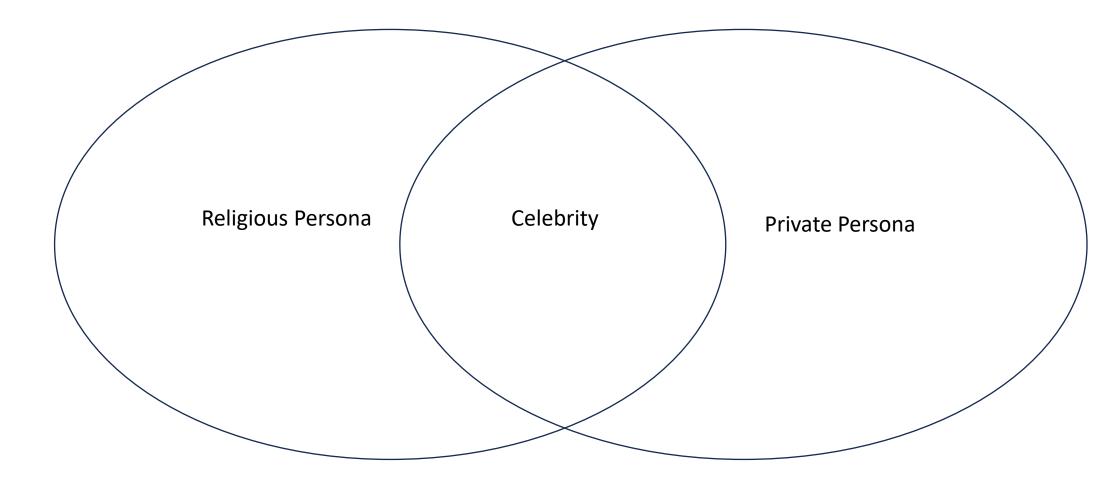


doncosimoschena "Ci sono creature che Dio ha mandato sulla terra non per parlare, ma per amare... više

10 evihnia . Donladaita nriiavad

Pet Trends

The rise of Catholic Celebrities...



31 tis. 318



Ordinariness & Authenticity

- The essence of celebrity has evolved from the idea of an unreachable **superstar** to the understanding that celebrities can also be "normal", everyday individuals who share similarities with ordinary people, and therefore can understand their problems.
- Television reality tv talent shows - social media
- Authenticity, personality, ordinariness and informality, have become crucial attributes of a celebrity.
- Para-social relationships.

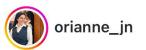






Authenticity

- Construction (social construct) of authenticity means creating the impression that someone is "real", "remains true to himself or herself" (Luebke, 2021, p. 636).
- The best tool to create the notion of authenticity and cultivate closeness is social media (Dumitrica, 2014; Enli, 2015; Enli & Rosenberg, 2018; Manning et al., 2017), people perceive it as more **authentic**. This dynamic is particularly significant when it comes to mobilizing younger audiences – greater trust.





 \square

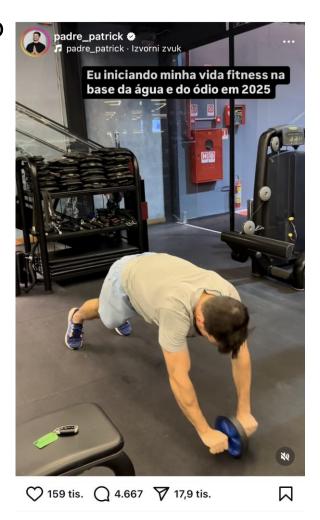
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petramrkovic i drugi kažu da im se sviđa orianne_in In religious life, we talk a lot about "detachment". But it doesn't mean what a lot of people think it means... više

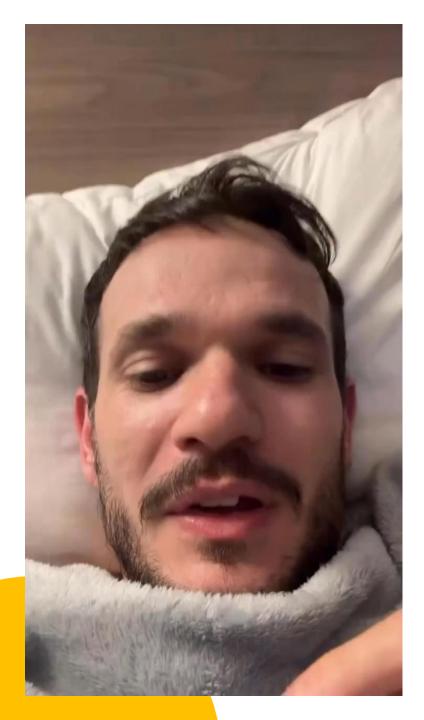
5 of title 2022 Dealedaite priioued

How to construct the perception of authenticity?

- Consistency (same in all the contexts, private and professional)
- Intimacy (personal photos, information, autobiography, feelings, emotions, exposing the family...)
- Ordinariness (imperfection, mistakes, amateurism: selfie)
- Immediacy (spontaneity, fast replying, interaction, live video, colloquial language). (Luebke 2022, Enli 2025)







Authenticity

Incorporating religious discourse
positions influencers as a relatable and
morally grounded, strengthening their
connection to followers (Vuković &
Krapić 2025)

Sample Footer Text 41

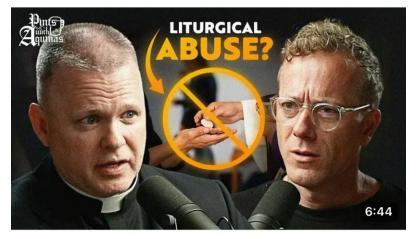
Populist style

- "the people" as a constructed entity
- "the people" is a concept that is often constructed through moral values, representing the virtuous segment of society
- Vs. "the elite"
- Style is crucial for success of these messages
- Populist influencers frequently select media forms that are not explicitly religious, thereby intertwining religion with entertainment. In doing so, they cultivate fame, based more on their style and performance than on their religious knowledge, and become "quasi-celebrities".

Populist style









Catholics Should NOT Support LGBTQ Pride Month

Matt Fradd · 175 tis. pregleda · Vrijeme streaminga: prije 4 godine



The Franciscans Have an LGBT Mission. Here's Why.

Breaking In The Habit \cdot 123 tis. pregleda \cdot prije 2 godine



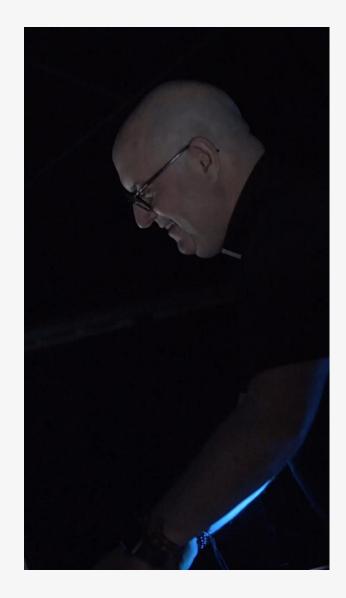
Communion on the Hand Should Be Abolished (Fr. Chris Alar)

Matt Fradd · 31 tis. pregleda · prije 3 mjeseca

- often cultivating audiences around cultural and doctrinal conflicts
- Us vs. them inside or outside of the Church
- War-terminology

Self - Scandalization

- Church representatives may deliberately transgress common communicative standards typically associated with the discourse of representatives of the Catholic Church (Krapić 2025)
- One of the primary objectives of self-scandalization is to capture attention and consequently mobilize audiences (Haller, 2015), making it a potentially effective strategy within the attention-driven environment of social media.
- Transgression in order to appear more authentic, "just like us", relatable, and less "institutional" and "cool"
- This strategy effectively serves influencers seeking to position themselves as representatives of "the people" while constructing an anti-elitist personal brand.



- Given that celebrities inherently draw public attention, the style and themes that celebrity (populist) influencers promote on social media can often enter mainstream media, feeding journalism hungry for sensationalism
- Amplification of emphasized reality via traditional media

Brazilian nuns go viral after beatboxing on Catholic TV

By Associated Press
② 2 min read · Published 4:05 PM EDT, Wed May 28, 2025







Nuns at enclosed Dublin monastery perform a viral dance

FANDOM

 Religious, clergy and lay faithful become **stars**, religion becomes a series of spectacles and the believers become spectators (Street 2004).

 Fans become particularly attached to certain programmes or stars within the context of a relatively heavy media use' (Abercrombie and Longhurst, 1998: 138)



fal ----- 1010 00 +

malhotra.bhavin.9026 37 tj. You are cute princess nun 🙌



Odgovor Pogledajte prijevod







Critique

- God often becomes "vague and subordinate," while the preacher assumes the central role—ultimately becoming the object of worship, whether intentionally or not (Postman 1987).
- Style takes precedence over expertise and the hierarchical authority.
- **Oversimplification** of complex issues and the trivialization of faith that can result from this approach.
- Street (2004) raises questions of representation, it appears that skilled communicators who perform better: have a better style, exude authenticity and credibility, possess aesthetics and attractiveness become representatives of their communities. Person with no experience or reference can rise to position of power and representation.
- Image spill-over effect

Advantages

- Type of testimony updated for the digital age
- Entering the pop culture, we can find out **what really motivates people** for the choices they made; to see **the human behind the suit**, to see that they are "one of us". (Street 2004)
- Young people's contradiction: 'just like us', fallible and capable of having 'fun' but at the same time they also need to be responsible, judicious and worthy of respect" (p.102). Manning et. al (2017) found that
- Followers are "new parishioners" because the number of people watching and commenting on their videos far exceeds the number of the faithful attending traditional sermons (Fuente-Cobo, Gutierrez de Cabiedes et al., 2023, p. 78).
- Golan, Morehouse, and English (2021) demonstrate that Christian influencers, due to their personal witness cultivate relationships with large audiences, they don't just talk but demonstrate the process, primarily because they are perceived as authentic.
- Personal stories and emotional connections surpass programs, structural approaches and ideologies. In this paradigm, the religious persona, his/her authenticity, and ability to resonate on a personal level become crucial.

Reality... the most powerful network in the world



Albertine Sisters at the service of Ukrainians in need

The Albertine Sisters have become a symbol in the Ukrainian city of Lviv, appearing wherever there is poverty and abandonment. When large-scale war broke out in February 2022, they went to the Lviv central station to transport people who, terrorized and exhausted by the war, got off the evacuation trains. The sisters have relocated to the recently-completed Albertine refuge they manage, offering daily meals and shelter to young mothers.



Nigerian Sisters at the forefront of rehabilitating women from human traffickers.

"Society finds it difficult to understand and accept the victims of human trafficking back in the community. Victims feel isolated and withdrawn from society when they return home."



Religious sister stays in southern Lebanon to assist war-torn villages

Amid intense airstrikes near the Israeli border, a religious sister has remained in the monastery of St. Joseph in Ain Ebel, determined to support the local Christian community despite the mounting dangers.

Meanwhile in real life...

The power to change the narratives about the margins.





Brazil: A minibus offering dignity to the homeless

The Daughters of Charity of Saint Vincent de Paul in Brazil is celebrating the 400th anniversary of the first inspiration of its founder with a new project that seeks to promote health and well-being, in light of the Gospel and the third UN Sustainable Development Goal.

attend school because their parents are unable to afford the tuition fees.



Sr. Veronika Ćibarić with Vincentian Marian Youth on Solomon Islands





caring for children with disabilities



Sr. Nabila's appeal from Gaza: 'We want peace, respect for human rights'

PALESTINE ISRAEL WAR APPEAL NUNS CATHOLIC CHURCH #SISTERSPROJECT

As Christians remain holed up in the Holy Family Parish in Gaza, Sr. Nabila Saleh relaunches her appeal for world leaders to hear the cries of civilians suffering in

OF THE DICASTERY FOR COMMUNICATION WITH AND THROUGH SISTERS

Many people still don't know how much great work is done by the religious orders around the world. Whether running schools and hospitals, caring for the sick, rescuing victims of human trafficking, or supplying employment for the destitute, the religious orders provide essential services either in places where there is little other provision, or for people for whom there is little other support.

The Dicastery would like to offer women religious three opportunities:





We invite you to suggest/write stories with women religious as witnesses of the "mighty works of God", so they can be shared via the various Vatican media platforms. Stories can be sent to sisters@spc.va

WE KINDLY ASK YOU TO FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS HERE

- INTERNSHIP IN ROME for a 3-month training program at Vatican News / Vatican Radio. The

different linguistic departments of Vatican News / Vatican Radio.

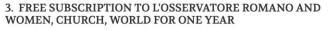
TO APPLY, PLEASE SEND AN EMAIL WITH THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

TO sisters@spc.va

- 3-MONTHS ONLINE COURSES opportunity on the most relevant current issues related to communication to strengthen sisters' capacity to serve God's people and every person.







Requests for a free online subscription(s) to L'Osservatore Romano can be sent

Please indicate the following information in the request: first name, last name, email address, congregation and country of the subscriber.

CLICK HERE FOR COMPLETE INSTRUCTIONS

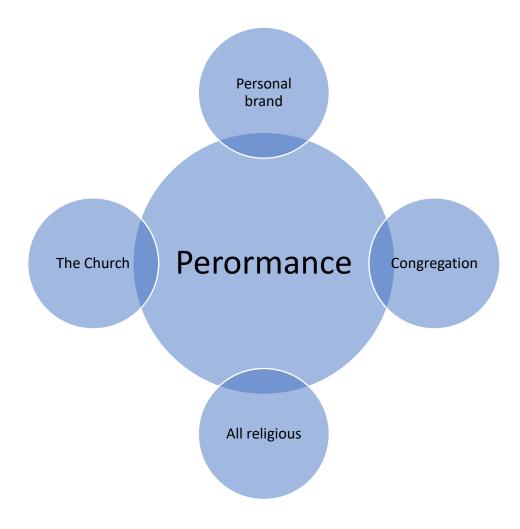




Conclusion

 Platforms are not merely tools for communication but arenas for performance, where the spectacle of the religious persona's personal life becomes a strategic asset.

- It is not inherently good or bad.
- Meaningful content, synodal image creation, that will spill over to all the representativrs of the same reality.
- Responsabilty



Thank you for your attention

- sisters@spc.va
- nina.krapic@spc.va

Sample Footer Text 9/12/2025