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Yahoo Watch: American Catholic

by Michael Sean Winters

Distinctly Catholic

The American Catholic calls attention to a recent ad that seeks to invert the famous "Morning in America" ad run by Ronald Reagan in 1984. This is funny at a couple of levels, in part because the GOP got whipped in the midterms also in 1982, the proximate comparison for this year's election, and they got whipped for the same reason the Dems are likely to lose seats: the economy had not turned around quickly enough.

But, there is a deeper discordance. Today's GOP, quite unlike Reagan, is all negative and nasty. They completely lack his sunny optimism, his Emersonian understanding of human fulfillment, his lack of personal censoriousness. In seeking to contrast Obama with Reagan, the makers of this as have, in fact, contrasted themselves with Reagan, and they do not benefit from the comparison.

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