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Clark on Economics 101

by Michael Sean Winters

Distinctly Catholic

Charles Michael Andres Clark, writing at *Commonweal*, delivers a fine economic critique of the Ryan budget. I would only add that Ryan and his Catholic champions need to ask themselves why those countries which erected their social welfare policies under the governance of Christian Democratic parties always spend about twice as much on programs designed to effect greater equality and guarantee all people a living wage than we ever have in the U.S.? Our country is not going bankrupt. We are not spending money we don't have. We simply do not tax the wealthy enough to offset the growing economic inequality brought about by the economic changes of the last thirty years. The GOP and Ryan fret that America could turn into Greece. I would rather express the hope that we might, regarding our social welfare policies, turn into Germany.

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