

Silk Defends Francis' Intellectual Cred

Michael Sean Winters | May. 17, 2013 | Distinctly Catholic

[Mark Silk at RNS](#) [1] beat me to the punch of answering a column by Phil Lawler in which Lawler disparaged Papa Francesco's intellect compared to that of his two predecessors. I do think it is fair to say that the Roman Church has not had a pontiff with Benedict's theological intellect in a very long time, perhaps ever. But, Papa Francesco is certainly a match for John Paul II and both men deserve to be considered intellectuals. I do not know what Lawler's beef is really and, as Silk points out, there is a long tradition of spiritual criticism of intellectual pride in our Church.

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Links:

[1] <http://marksilk.religionnews.com/2013/05/16/pope-francis-no-intellectual/>