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More Conservative Grumpiness about Francis

by Michael Sean Winters

Distinctly Catholic

At First Things, William Donio, Jr. tries to twist Pope Francis into the kind of Catholic neo-con who, well, the kind who reads First Things and likes it. He is not very successful, especially in the way he dismisses social justice as a proper concern for the Church, and obfuscates the actual way in which Pope Francis speaks about the issue, e.g., it is about structures as well as attitudes! It is funny to watch Catholic conservatives try and twist Francis into their own image. Funny, but also sad. Everything about Pope Francis so far is an invitation to all Catholics, left and right, to stretch, but just as Abp Chaput seems perplexed by Pope Francis' popularity, Donio can only bring himself to appreciate Pope Francis if he contorts him into someone he is not.

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