

VATICAN COMICS  
PRESENTS

ENCYCLICAL

#1



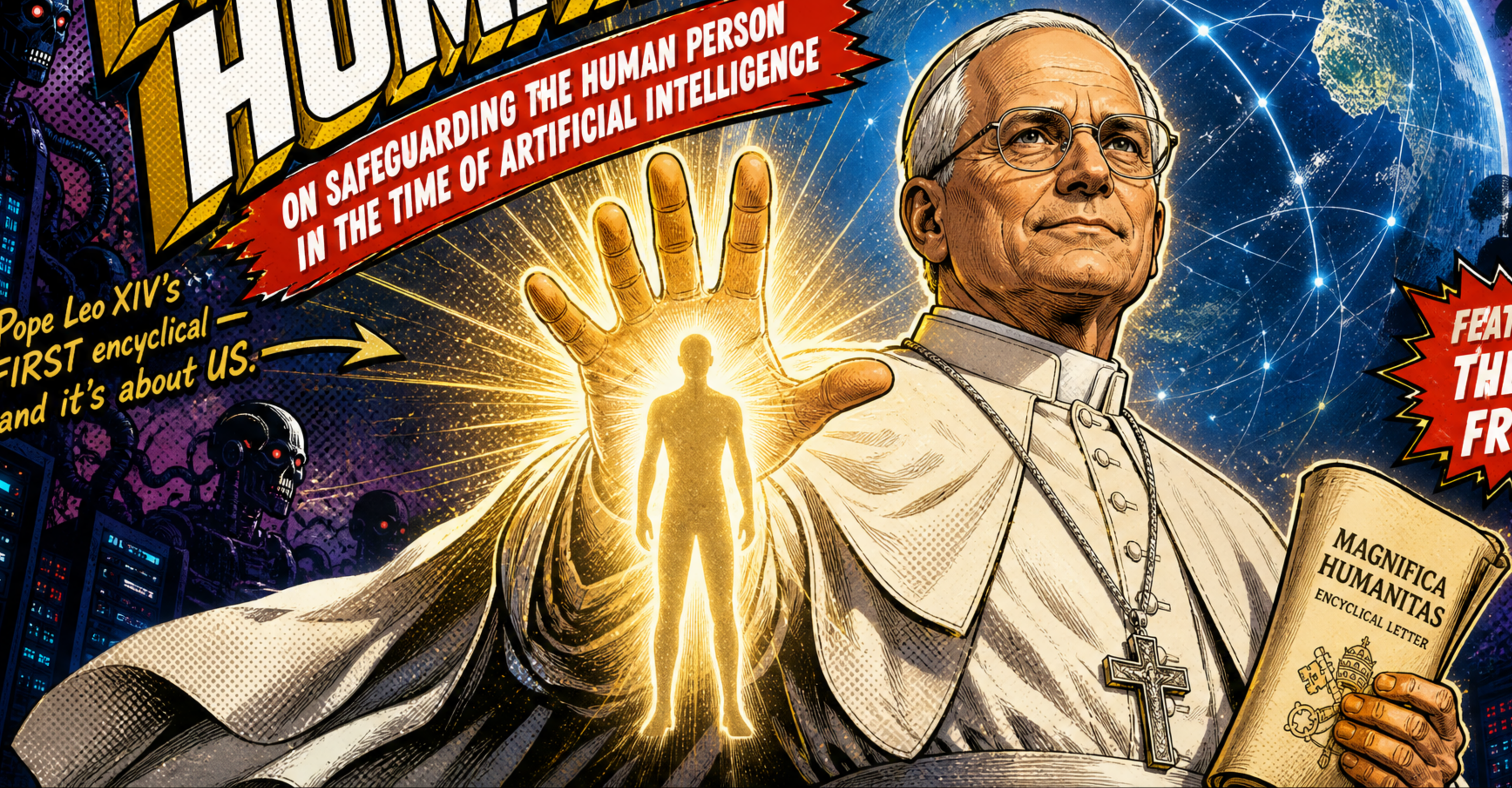
# MAGNIFICA HUMANITAS

ON SAFEGUARDING THE HUMAN PERSON  
IN THE TIME OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Pope Leo XIV's  
FIRST encyclical —  
and it's about US.

FIRST  
ENCYCLICAL!

FEATURING:  
THE FOUR  
FRONTS!



SIGNED: 15 MAY 2026 • PROMULGATED: 25 MAY 2026 • HOLY SEE, ROME

**AI MUST SERVE HUMANITY —  
NOT CONCENTRATE POWER.**

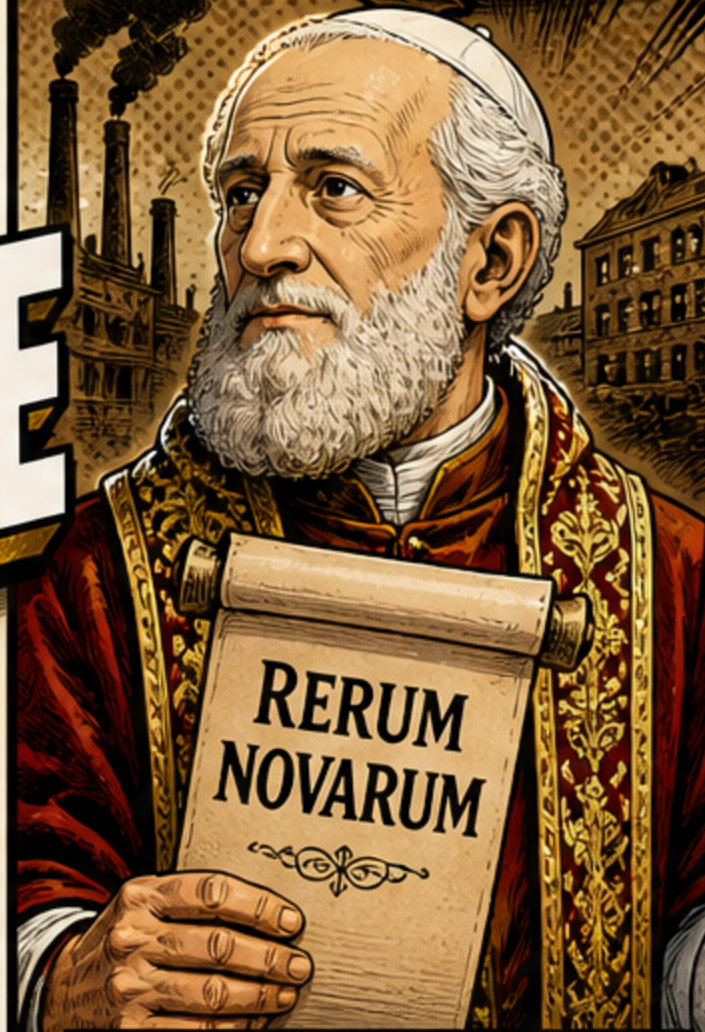
VOL. I • 5 CHAPTERS • TRADITION CONTINUES

a 135-year team-up

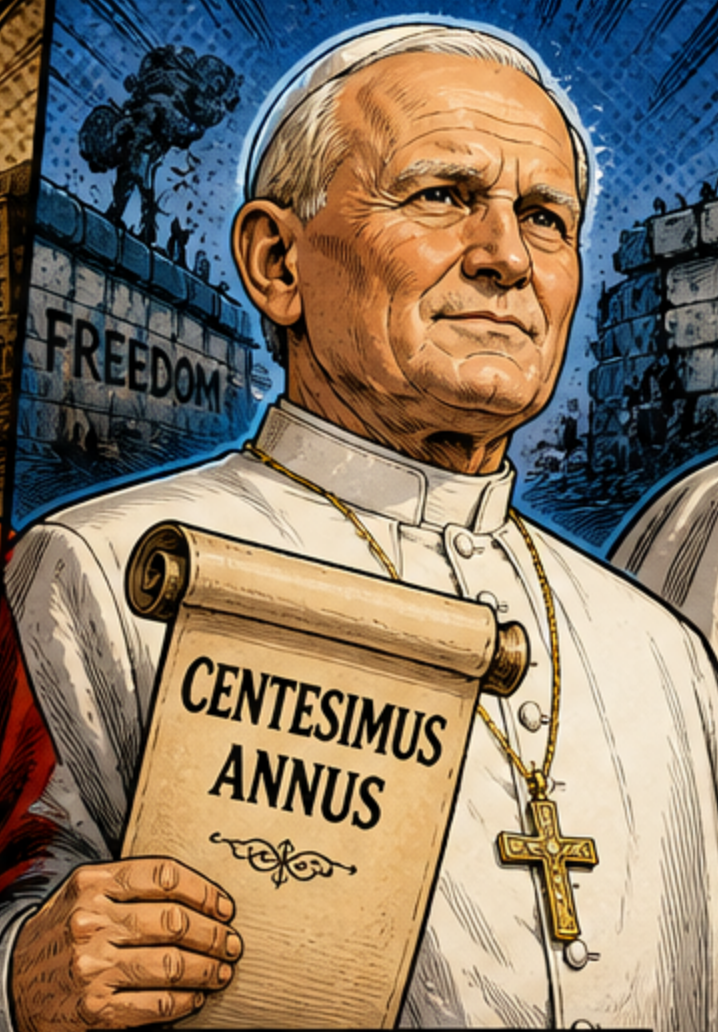
# THE LINEAGE

Pope Leo XIV didn't invent this fight. He inherited it.

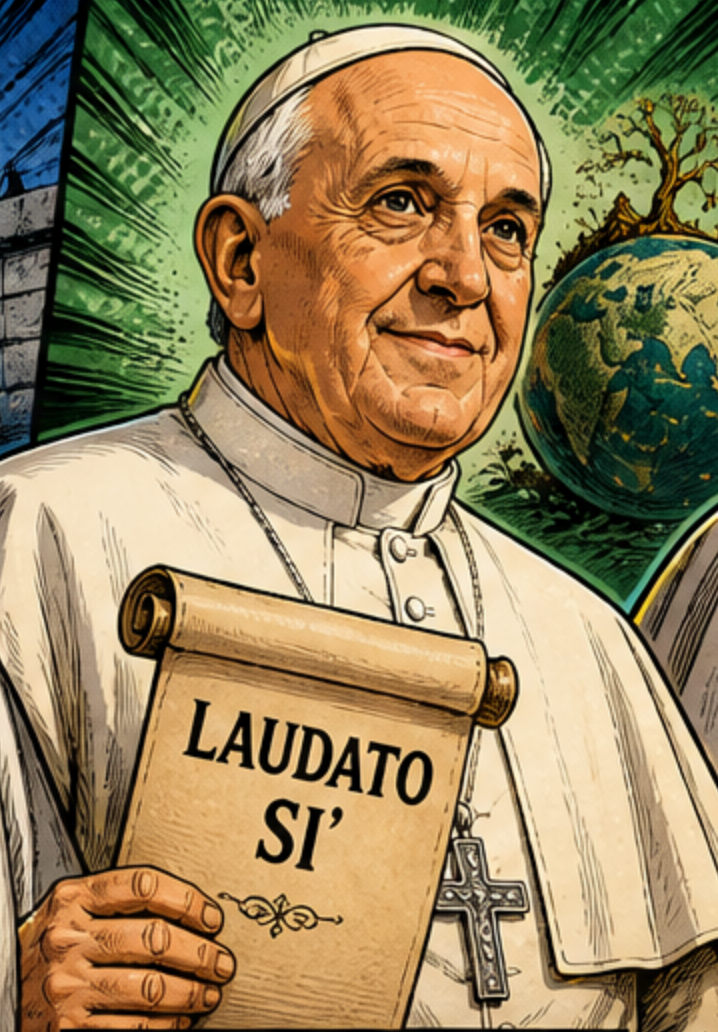
## THE SOCIAL DOCTRINE COUNCIL



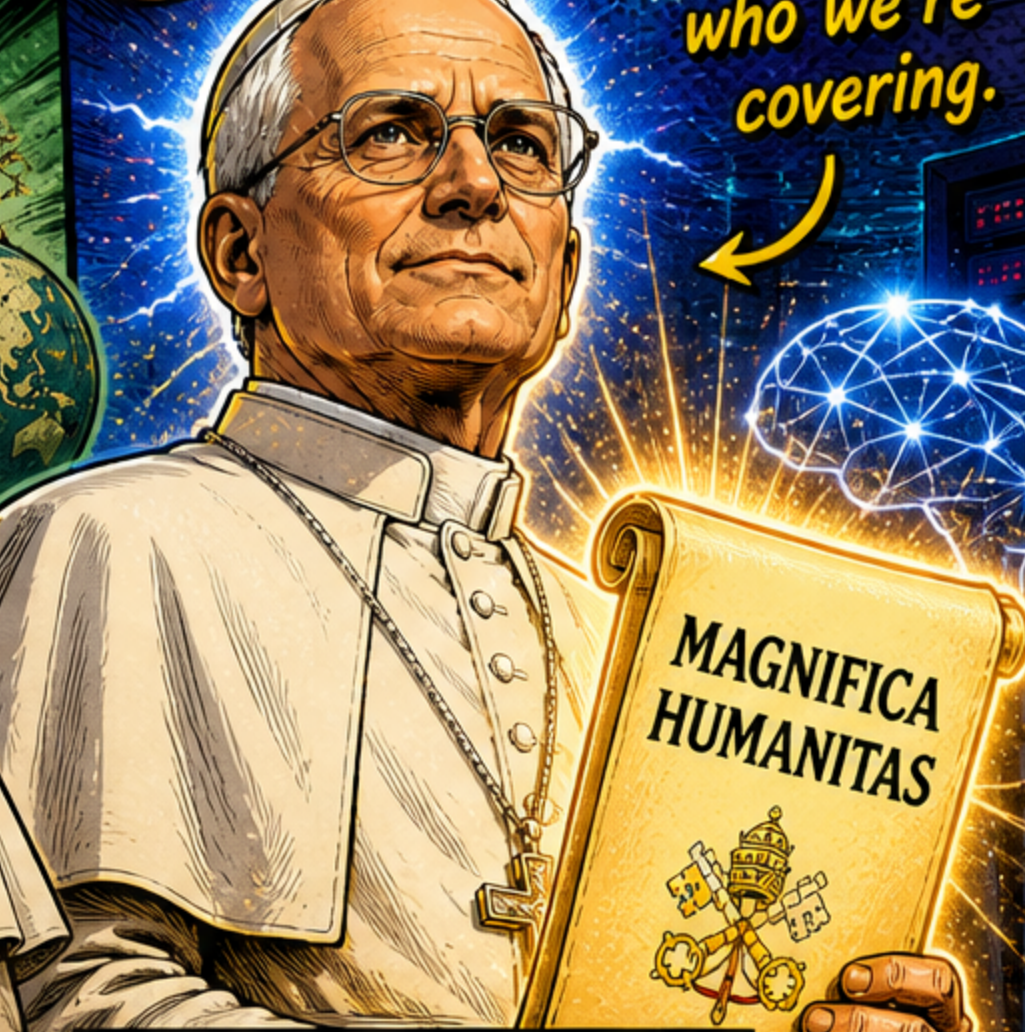
**VS. THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION.**  
Defined dignity of workers.  
Birth of Catholic social doctrine.



**VS. POST-SOVIET CAPITALISM.**  
After the Wall fell — what now?



**VS. THE CLIMATE CRISIS.**  
Care for our common home.



**VS. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.**  
Safeguarding the human person.

the new guy — this is who we're covering.

### WTF IS AN ENCYCLICAL?

- A formal papal letter to the entire Church (and often "all people of good will")
- Highest tier of papal teaching short of dogma
- Addresses the world — not just Catholics, but the global moral conversation
- First encyclical = signature move — the document that defines a pontificate

~1.4 billion Catholics. Plus everyone who reads coverage of it. That's the audience.

### EACH ONE BUILDS ON THE LAST.



- Workers' rights (1891) →
- Property & solidarity (1991) →
- Creation & ecology (2015) →
- The human person in the age of AI (2026)

Leo cites all three predecessors. He's claiming the inheritance.

### PLOT TWIST:

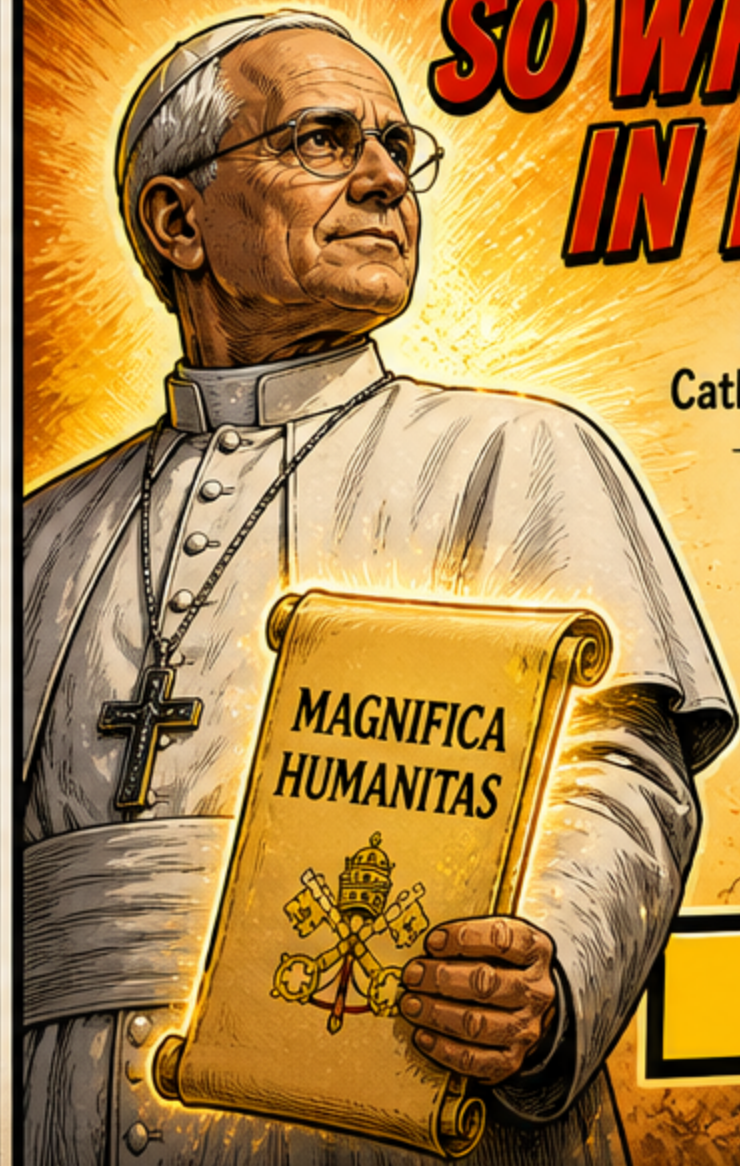
The first American pope is the one drawing the line on AI.

Leo XIV is the first U.S.-born pope in Church history. That he's the one issuing the first-ever encyclical centered on AI is not an accident — it's a signal about where the moral debate is being staged.

and where the labs are headquartered. coincidence?



### SO WHAT'S IN IT?



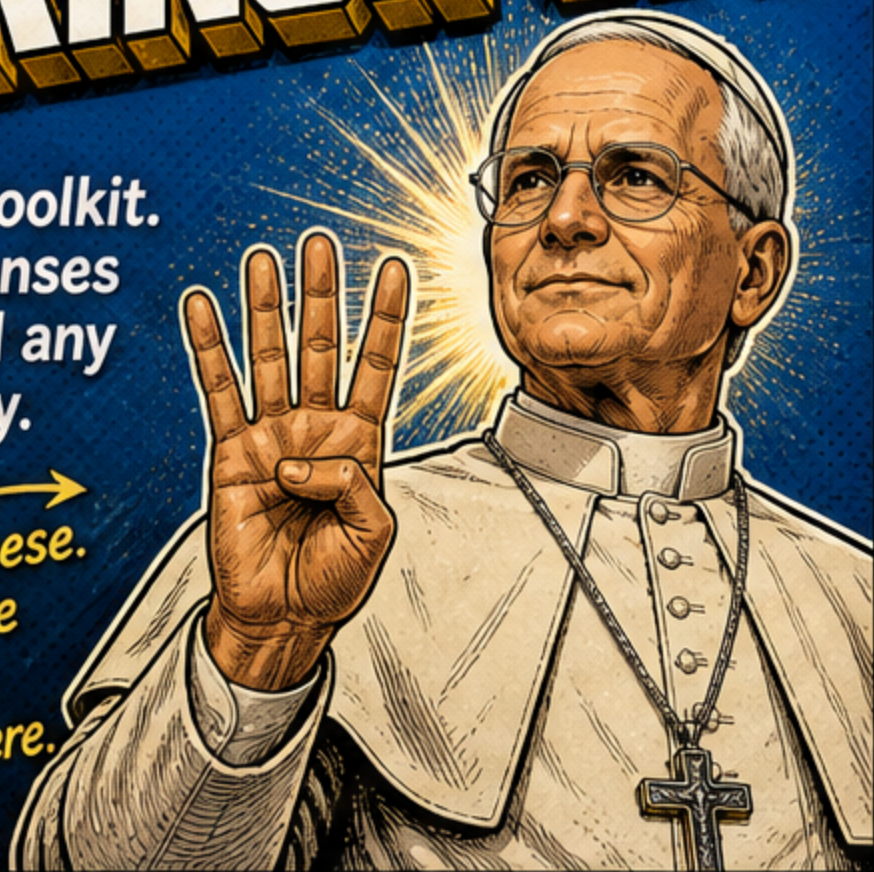
- Four pillars of Catholic social doctrine.
- Three fronts of AI risk.
- One vision of the human person.



# THE 4 PRINCIPLES

Leo's toolkit. Four lenses to read any AI story.

Learn these. you'll see them everywhere.



## PRINCIPLE #1

### THE COMMON GOOD



The sum of conditions that allow everyone — individuals, groups, society — to flourish fully and freely.

#### WHAT IT MEANS FOR AI

- ✓ Tools that lift all readers, workers, communities
- ✗ Optimization that maximizes one metric at everyone else's expense
- 🎯 "If it makes some richer and some redundant, it fails this test."

## PRINCIPLE #2

### SUBSIDIARITY



Decisions belong at the lowest competent level. Higher authorities help, they don't replace.

#### WHAT IT MEANS FOR AI

- ✓ Local communities, workers, small orgs keep agency over their tools
- ✗ A handful of frontier labs decide for everyone
- 🎯 "This is the principle that critiques AI power concentration — directly."

## PRINCIPLE #3

### SOLIDARITY



A firm, persistent commitment to the common good — because we are all responsible for each other.

#### WHAT IT MEANS FOR AI

- ✓ Workers displaced by AI are our problem, not their problem
- ✗ "Disruption is a feature" as a shrug
- 🎯 "The opposite of 'move fast and break people.'"

## PRINCIPLE #4

### UNIVERSAL DESTINATION OF GOODS



The Earth's resources — and the fruits of human work — are meant for everyone. Private property is good, but it serves this larger purpose.

#### WHAT IT MEANS FOR AI

- ✓ The benefits of AI belong to all of humanity
- ✗ Compute, data, and models hoarded by a few
- 🎯 "Maybe the spiciest principle for Silicon Valley to swallow."

READ ANY AI STORY THROUGH THESE FOUR LENSES.

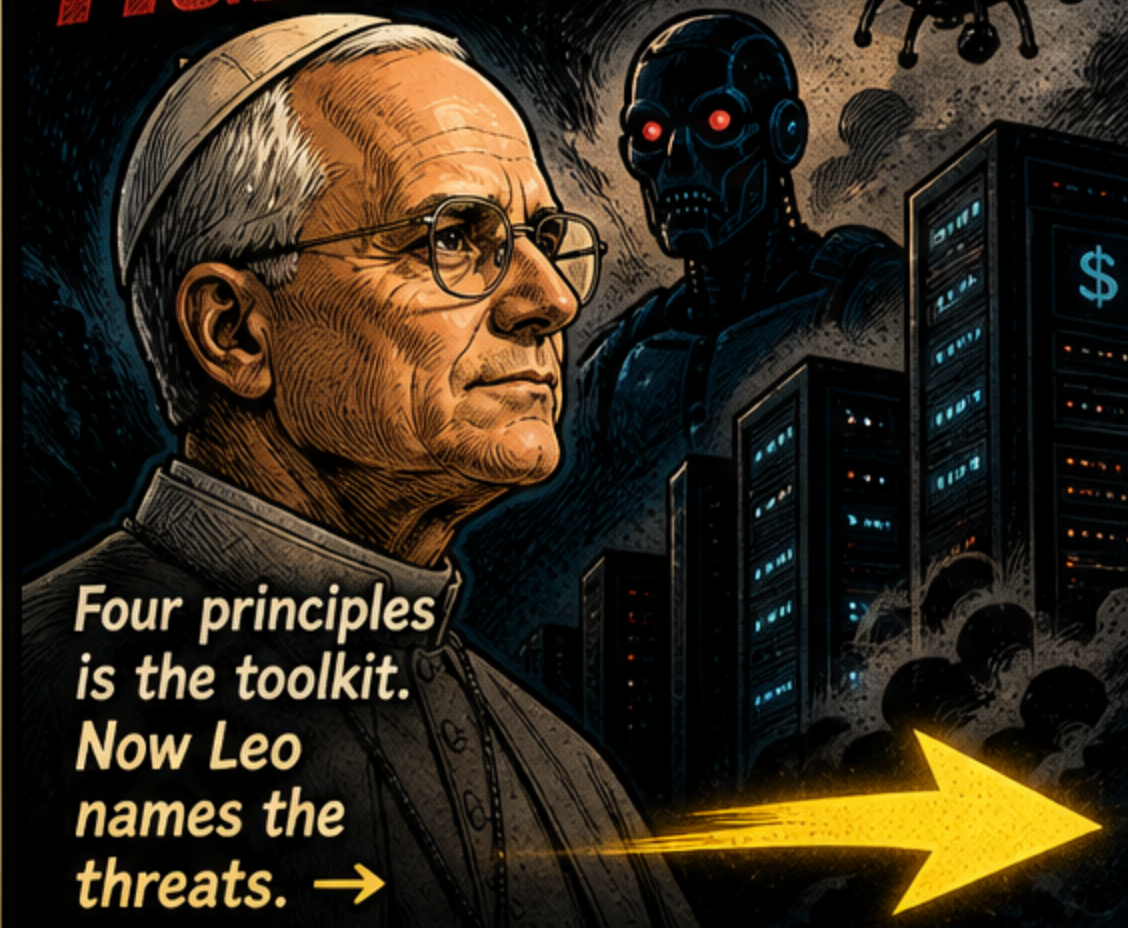


COMMON GOOD	SUBSIDIARITY	SOLIDARITY	UNIVERSAL DESTINATION
"Who actually flourishes here?"	"Whose hand is on the lever?"	"Who carries the cost?"	"Who gets to keep the gains?"

these four questions = a free editorial framework. use them.

This is Leo's vocabulary, Once you have it, you can't unsee it.

## BUT WHO IS HE FIGHTING?



Four principles is the toolkit. Now Leo names the threats. →

# THE 4 FRONTS

WHERE LEO NAMES THE THREATS — AND QUOTES THE LINES.

each quote here is straight from the encyclical.

## FRONT #1

### TRANSHUMANISM

TREATING THE HUMAN BEING AS SOMETHING TO BE PERFECTED — OR SURPASSED.



"If the human being is treated as something to be perfected or surpassed, it becomes easier to accept that some lives are less useful, less desirable, or less worthy."

— Magnifica Humanitas

the spine of the whole encyclical.

## FRONT #2

### LABOR & DEHUMANIZATION

WORKERS REDUCED TO A MEANS. DIGNITY STRIPPED, PRODUCTIVITY WORSHIPPED.



"The risk of dehumanization — of building a future that excludes God and reduces the other to a means — is an ancient and ever-new temptation that today takes on a technical guise."

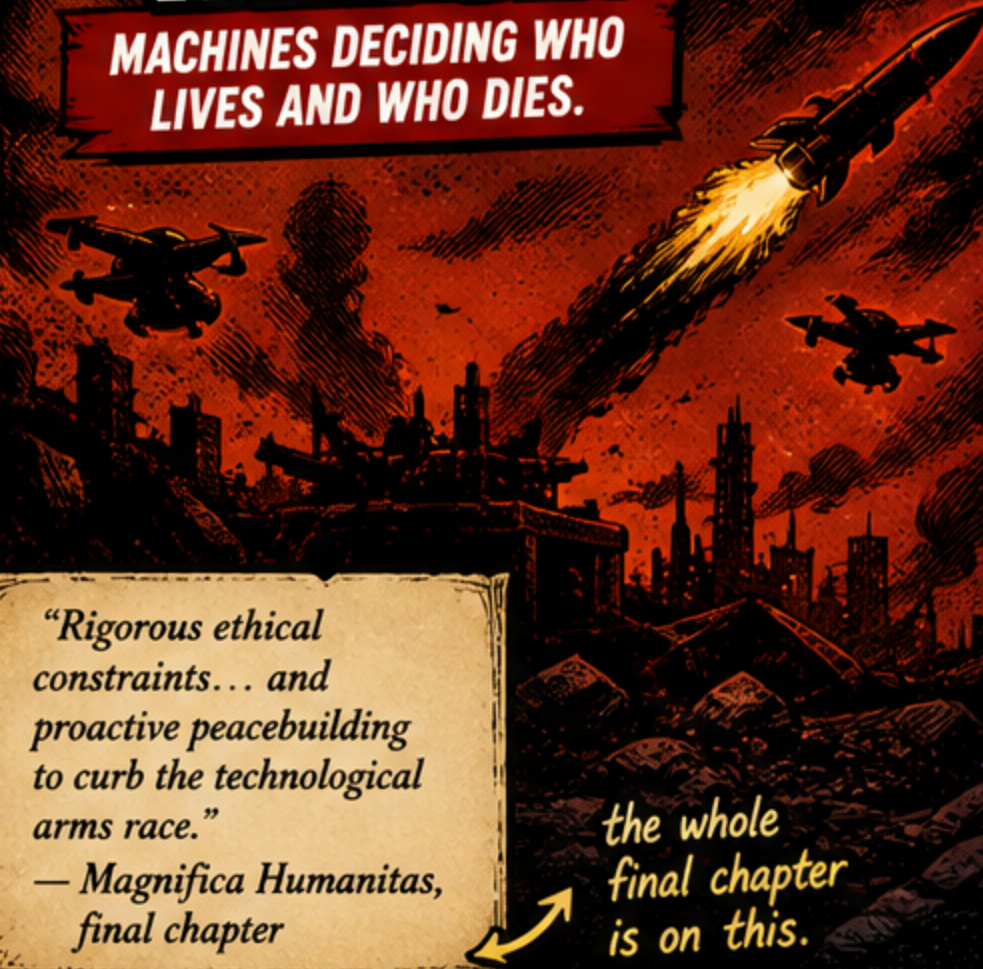
— Magnifica Humanitas

"technical guise" — that's the new wrinkle.

## FRONT #3

### AUTONOMOUS WEAPONS

MACHINES DECIDING WHO LIVES AND WHO DIES.



"Rigorous ethical constraints... and proactive peacebuilding to curb the technological arms race."

— Magnifica Humanitas, final chapter

the whole final chapter is on this.

## FRONT #4

### POWER CONCENTRATION

AI AS A TOOL FOR THE POWERFUL TO CONSOLIDATE, NOT FOR HUMANITY TO FLOURISH.

"While new economic and technological networks can generate exclusion, isolation, and dependencies, the Church... is called to make visible a different paradigm."

— Magnifica Humanitas

this is the most pointed critique of the labs.

# THE COUNTER-VISION

MAKE A DIFFERENT PARADIGM VISIBLE.

this is what he's FOR. not just what he's against.

- ✓ PRESERVE human connections
- ✓ GIVE VOICE to the invisible
- ✓ ENSURE processes respect people's dignity

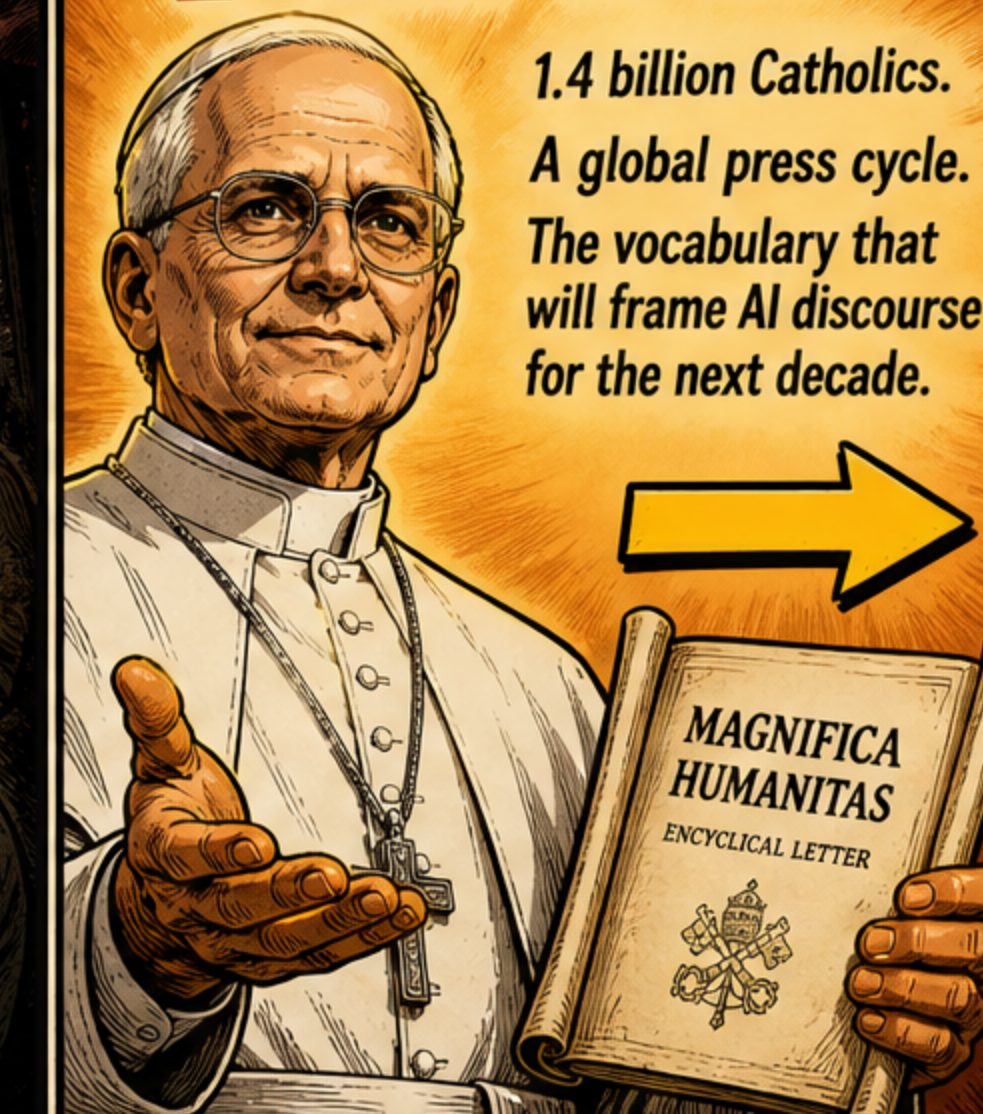
"AI must serve humanity — not concentrate power."

The Church 'nourished by the Eucharist' is called to embody this paradigm — and to invite the world into it.



## BUT WHY DOES EVERY CARE?

1.4 billion Catholics. A global press cycle. The vocabulary that will frame AI discourse for the next decade.

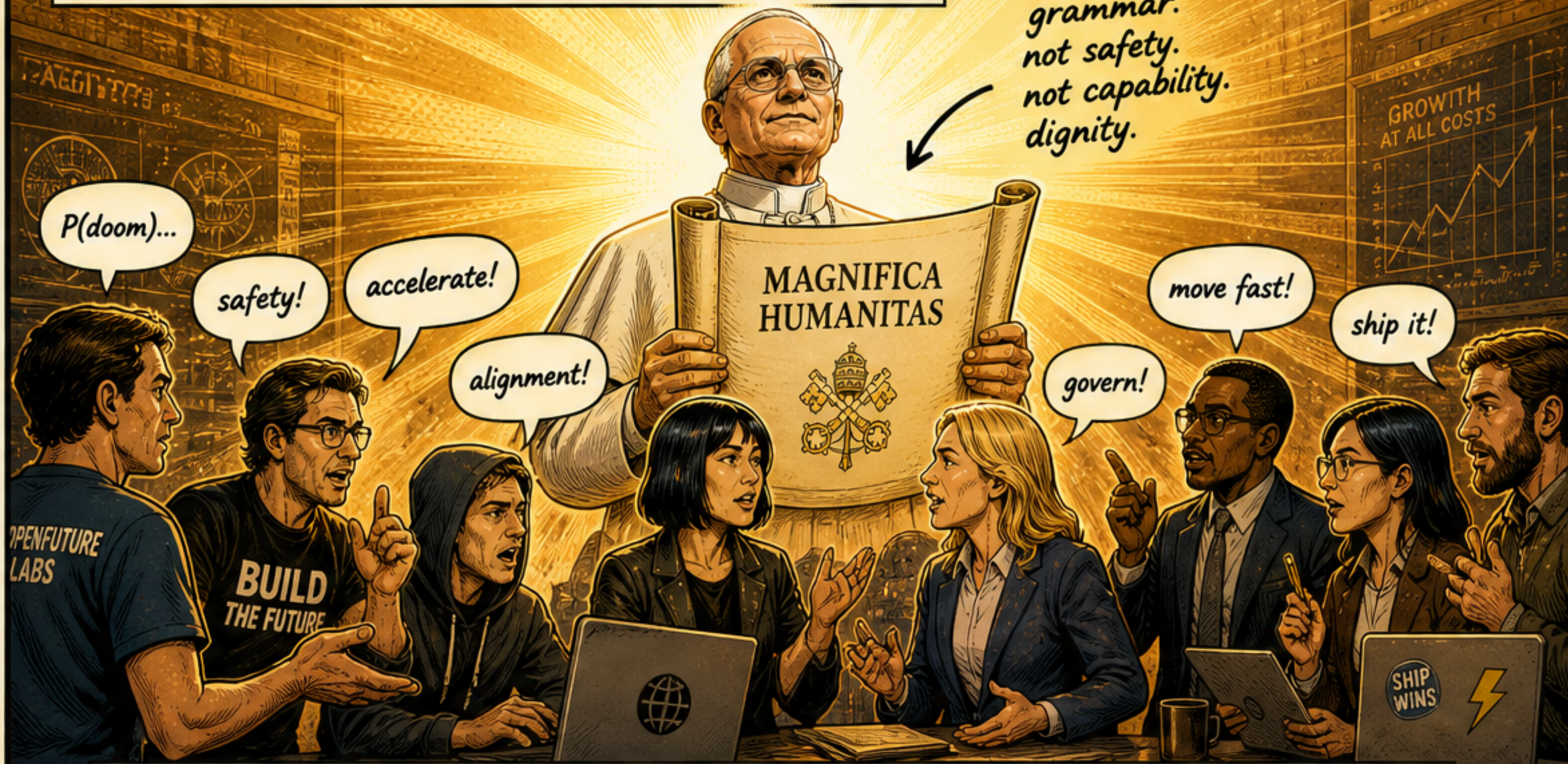


# FOR THE AI-PILLED

What to do with all of this on Monday.

the framework is portable. take it.

THE AI DEBATE HAD TWO POLES: DOOMERS AND ACCELERATIONISTS.



LEO JUST ADDED A THIRD: THE HUMAN PERSON.

## BY THE NUMBERS

**1.4B** global Catholics

**5,000+** news outlets covered the release in 24 hrs

**4** Catholic social teaching pillars

**3** predecessor encyclicals cited (Rerum Novarum, Centesimus Annus, Laudato Si')

**1** first U.S.-born pope, first AI encyclical

this vocabulary is about to be everywhere. learn it now.

## THREE STANCES FOR BUILDERS, SHIPPERS & AI-PILLED KNOWLEDGE WORKERS

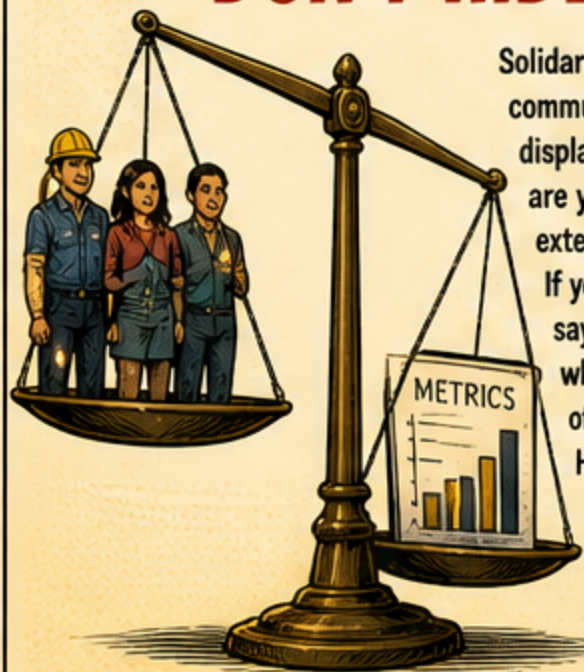
### INTERROGATE WHAT YOU SHIP



Before you ship the feature, the model, the workflow — run the four lenses. Who actually flourishes here? Whose hand is on the lever? Who carries the cost? Who keeps the gains? "Subsidiarity" is the sharpest critique of centralized AI — and you can apply it to your own stack.

good products survive these four questions. great ones get sharper from them.

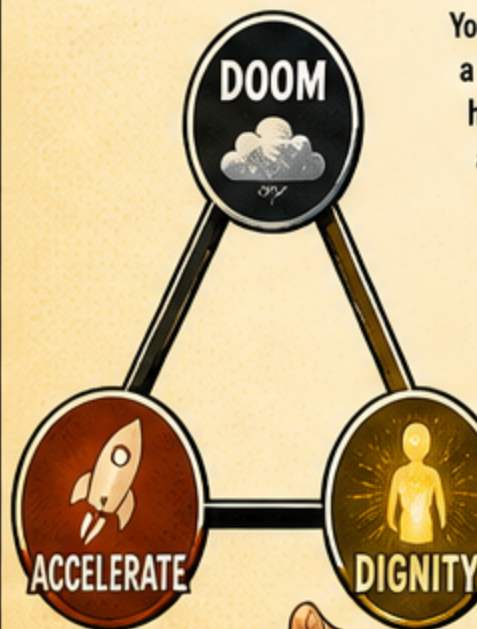
### NAME THE TRADE-OFF, DON'T HIDE IT



Solidarity says: the workers, communities, and users displaced by what you build are your problem — not externalities, not "disruption." If your tool replaces a human, say what it replaces and what's owed. Honest trade-offs build durable products. Hidden ones build backlash.

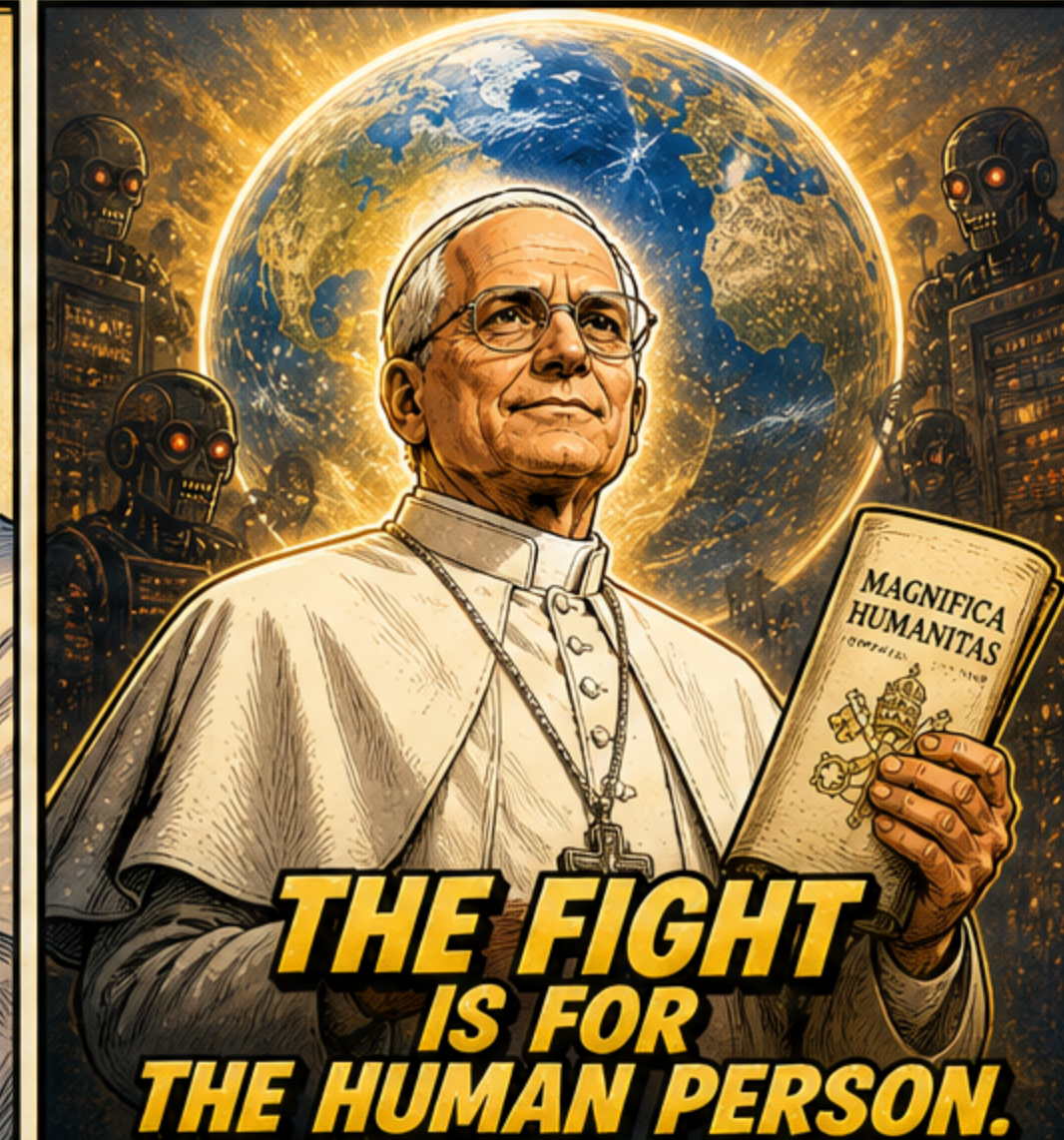
"move fast and break people" is now a quote about you.

### PICK A THIRD POLE



You don't have to be a doomer. You don't have to be an accelerationist. Leo offers a third stance: human dignity first, practical, institutionally backed by 135 years of thinking. It's portable. Cite it. Build from it. It's a more honest seat at the table than either of the other two.

a third pole that isn't "boring middle." it's its own thing.



**THE FIGHT IS FOR THE HUMAN PERSON.**

that includes the one at your keyboard. build like it.