

Lady Gaga, Catholic Church Exchange Blows

Judas Iscariot is no Bible believer's favorite. So it's no surprise that Lady Gaga's controversial video for a song that goes by the name of *Judas* is drawing the ire of the Catholic church.

And it's not just the video, which features Lady Gaga dressed up like a gothic Mary Magdalene. It's the timing of the video's release—over the Easter holiday.

"In the most biblical sense I am beyond repentance. Fame hooker, prostitute wench. Vomits her mind," Lady Gaga sings in the video, donning a black cape. The song is part of Gaga's latest CD dubbed *Born This Way* set for release on May 23.

"This is a stunt—Lady Gaga tries to continue to shock Catholics and Christians in general: she dresses as a nun; she swallows the rosary. She has now morphed into a caricature of herself," Bill Donahue, spokesperson for the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights, told the *Telegraph*.

"She is trying to rip off Christian idolatry to shore up her talentless, mundane and boring performances. Another ex-Catholic whose head is turned around... Is this the only way to jet up her performance? This isn't random, we are getting closer to Holy Week and Easter. Does she actually believe her own BS?"

BS? Those are strong words from a Catholic spokesperson.

Although representatives of the Catholic church is outraged and launching verbal missives against Gaga, some Christian onlookers suggest that the Gaga's detractors are overreacting and fueling the publicity fire.

"To consider Lady Gaga's latest Madonna-aping act an attack on the church, is like calling a toddler riding her tricycle into the Empire State Building a terrorist attack," says Gary McCullough, director of Christian Newswire. "I suggest that our response to little Miss Stefani (Lady Gaga's real name) should be to offer her a band-aid for her skinned knee while trying not to laugh. This is no attack on the church. It is just one more anxious cry by Miss Stefani to be the center of attention."

As McCullough suggests, this isn't the first time Lady Gaga has mimicked Madonna. In June 2010, she enraged the Catholic church by "abusing Catholic symbols" in her video for Alejandro. At that time, Donohue said Gaga had "become the new poster girl for American decadence and Catholic bashing, sans the looks and talent of her role model."

What's your take on Gaga's video? How about a Catholic group calling it BS?