New Vatican Bank Chief Sparks ‘Illuminati’ Takeover Speculation After Rothschild Ties Surface

A new leadership appointment inside the Vatican’s financial system is drawing intense attention and raising fresh questions about influence at the highest levels of the Catholic Church.

As reported by the Daily Mail, François Pauly has been selected as the next president of the supervisory board for the Institute for the Works of Religion, the Vatican Bank. The role places him over a seven-member panel responsible for guiding strategy, ensuring compliance with international standards and overseeing operations tied to the Church’s finances and assets.

Pauly is not new to the institution. He has served on the board since 2024. His new position will take effect April 28.

But the reaction was immediate.

Online speculation surged after Pauly’s previous role as general manager of the Edmond de Rothschild group resurfaced. The banking family has long been one of the most recognizable financial dynasties in Europe, and that connection alone was enough to ignite a wave of scrutiny.

One user wrote, “Deep state taking over the Catholic Church?! Is that why [Vice President] JD Vance met with the pope?”

Another claimed, “The Vatican is captured by a globalist deep state.”

The Daily Mail noted that conspiracy theories surrounding powerful financial families and global influence structures quickly attached themselves to the story. Claims tied to the so-called Illuminati circulated widely, with some asserting that elite networks of bankers and political figures operate behind the scenes to shape world events.

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Pauly himself is not part of the Rothschild lineage. The report states that he previously worked within their banking structure but has no direct familial ties. It also confirmed there is no evidence linking him to any secret society.

Still, the timing and the connections are drawing attention.

The Rothschild banking network has historic ties to the Vatican dating back centuries.

The Daily Mail reported that the family once provided a major loan that helped stabilize the Catholic Church's finances during a period of crisis. That relationship has lingered in public memory, especially among those already skeptical of global financial power.

The report also pointed to a recent police raid on Edmond de Rothschild's Paris headquarters tied to an investigation involving Jeffrey Epstein. Files showed Epstein exchanged emails with the bank, though he had no contact with Pauly.

Even so, the overlap of names, institutions and timing has fueled ongoing discussion.

The Vatican Bank itself remains one of the most closely watched financial entities in the world. It manages funds tied to Church operations, properties and charitable efforts, and ultimately answers to the pope and a commission of cardinals.

Now, with new leadership stepping in and old connections resurfacing, the conversation is growing louder.

What exactly is happening inside the Vatican's financial system is once again becoming a question many are asking.

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