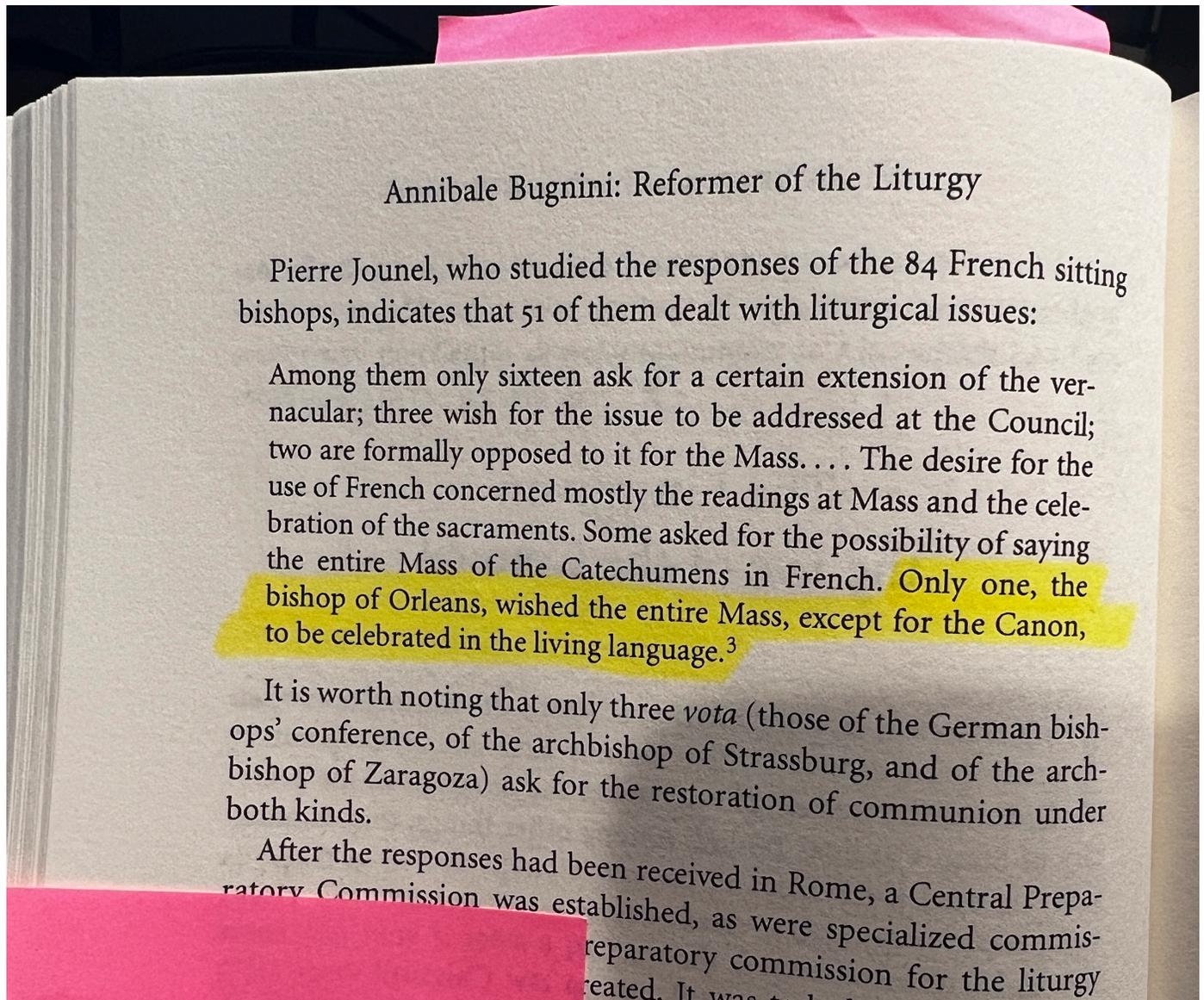


In 1959, Pope Saint John XXIII announced the Second Vatican Council. A few months later, preparations for the Council began. The bishops were asked to send in their *vota* (“wishes”). When it comes to the 84 bishops in France, **only 16 of them** requested extension of the vernacular. Two of them were opposed to any vernacular during the Mass. According to the eminent French historian, Yves Chiron: **“Only one, the bishop of Orleans, wished the entire Mass, except for the Canon, to be celebrated in the living language.”**



For the record, the responses were published in the *Acta et Documenta Concilio Œcumenico Vaticano II apparando*. Series I (*Antepreparatoria*), vol. II, *Consilia et vota episcoporum et praelatorum* (Vatican City: Typis Polyglottis Vaticanis, 1960-1961).

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