**JOKE, PHILOSOPHY** 

## MUMPSIMUS FOR YOUR NEW SUMPSIMUS

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<sup>\*</sup> mumpsimus (MUHMP-si-mus) someone who obstinately clings to an error, bad habit, or prejudice, even after the foible has been exposed and the person humiliated; also, any error, bad habit, or prejudice clung to in this fashion. Mumpsimus has its obstinate roots in "the story of an ignorant priest," says the Century (1914), "who in saying his mass had long said mumpsimus for sumpsimus, and who, when his error was pointed out, replied, 'I am not going to change my old mumpsimus for your new sumpsimus."