



call to action

Progress report on the Call for Reform in the Catholic Church

March 2008

Chair of Review Board lauds CTA vigilance toward Bruskewitz



Judge Michael Merz of Dayton, Ohio, who chairs the USCCB National Review Board, wrote CTA commending our continued campaign for Lincoln, Neb., Bishop Bruskewitz to comply with the Dallas Charter against clergy sexual abuse of children.

Story, page 2.

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JustChurch resistance widens against St. Louis archbishop

Over 250 Catholics held a rain-soaked prayer vigil at the St. Louis Archdiocesan Court Feb. 5, while inside Archbishop Raymond Burke was giving Fr. Marek Bozek a canonical admonition — the first step toward forcing Bozek out of the priesthood. At the same hour nationwide, thousands of CTA members were praying in solidarity with the pastor and his people at St. Stanislaus Parish. Many sent e-mails (see page 3).

Burke had already excommunicated both Bozek, for pastoring the parish without permission since 2005, and all six parish trustees, for refusing to give up the title to parish property given to them by an earlier archbishop in 1891. But in two years with Bozek, the parish has doubled in size and is thriving. Two newly elected trustees are also willing to endure excommunication to join the board. St. Stan's remains a site of CTA-USA's JustChurch Campaign of nonviolent resistance to church injustice.

Two women priests ordained

Besides his part in the parish's so-called "schism," Bozek is targeted for censure by Burke because he supported and took part in the ordination of two women by the Roman Catholic WomenPriest movement in a Reform Jewish synagogue in St. Louis last November. Burke demanded in vain that the host rabbi, Susan Talve, cancel the service. Both of the women ordained, Rose Marie Dunn Hudson and Elsi Hainz McGrath, were in the crowd at the Feb. 5 vigil supporting Bozek. The 33-year-old Polish-born priest issued a strong statement identifying the exclusion of women from the priesthood as abusive, and saying, "I could not tolerate the abuse of my sisters any longer." (Excerpts, page 3.)



Fr. Marek Bozek is interviewed by a Fox TV News reporter after meeting with Archbishop Burke Feb. 5. (Photos: Lena Woltering)

Burke spurns compromise

Fr. Bozek made a compromise offer to the archbishop at the Feb. 5 meeting. If Burke lifted all penalties, allowed St. Stan's to remain open with title to the property unchanged, and assigned a priest there, Bozek would consider returning to his original diocese (Springfield-Cape Girardeau, Mo.) or entering monastic life. Burke immediately rejected the offer. He later scheduled another meeting March 5 during which the file that the archdiocese has kept on Fr. Bozek will be shared with him.

Cont. on p. 2

JustChurch in St. Louis, cont. from p. 1

CTA affiliates host Fr. Phan

Another priest drawing recent fire from the St. Louis archbishop is Georgetown University theologian Peter Phan, an internationally known scholar on interfaith dialogue and past president of the Catholic Theological Society of America. Under pressure from Burke, the Aquinas Institute of Theology in St. Louis cancelled a January lecture by Phan. But two CTA regional affiliates, The Catholic Action Network in St. Louis and the



Fr. Peter Phan

Fellowship of Southern Illinois Laity in neighboring Belleville, Ill., diocese, joined forces and rescheduled Phan's talk at St. Louis Community College Feb. 8. Over 250 people attended. He addressed "Being Religious in A Religiously Plural World."

For more information, or to order DVDs of the lecture, go to www.catholicactionnetwork.org

Catholic Action Network, long active on issues of peace and societal justice from its offices in St. Louis, is now also addressing JustChurch matters in a vigorous way, has become a CTA affiliate, and is also planning to convene a first gathering of a Lay Synod in the archdiocese on May 3. Stay tuned.

Benedict the Corrector

by Bob McClory

Every so often, it seems, Pope Benedict XVI feels the need to offend a non-Catholic religious body – not for any current cause – but just to let them know who's in charge. His approval of a new prayer for the Latin Good Friday Mass is just the latest example of this inclination. When the new vernacular texts were introduced some 40 years ago, an old prayer which spoke of the "blindness" of the Jews and asked God to lift "the veil from their hearts," was simply deleted and had remained so since. Then when the pope called for a wider return of the old Latin rite last year, it was assumed that offensive text would not be resurrected. After all, the relations between Jews and Christians have come a long way since the 1960s. And indeed the old text will not be used. But the pope introduced a new variation – a prayer which asks God "to enlighten the Jews so that they may acknowledge Jesus Christ as the savior of all men."

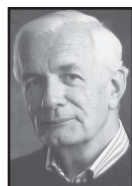
What was that all about? asked Jews and Catholics who found the new text only slightly less repugnant than the old. Among the protesters was a worldwide consortium of Conservative Jews who said they were "dismayed and deeply disturbed" and found this development an unnecessary step backwards in interfaith relations.

Nevertheless, it is consistent with similar declarations coming from Rome at regular intervals. Still widely remembered is

Benedict's talk in Germany in 2006, which caused dismay, disturbance and even some rioting in the Islamic world. The pope quoted an "erudite," 15th century Byzantine emperor who said the Prophet Muhammad had introduced to the world "only things that are evil and inhuman."

Then last year, Benedict approved a document which pointed out that Orthodox Christian churches have some very serious defects and that Protestant churches are so much more defective that they can scarcely even be called churches. So in less than 18 months, the Holy Father has hit hard at Muslims, Orthodox and Protestant Christians and Jews.

Some say he's just trying to establish some ground rules for future dialogue. But dialogue which begins with a triumphalistic, I'm-right-and-you're-wrong proclamation is destined to fail. What's really happening here, I believe, is part of an ongoing series of moves toward erecting a pre-Vatican II, fortress-like institution that is so sure of itself that it must belittle, divide and remind everyone of the boundaries between us Catholics and those other, wayward children of Abraham who fail to accept the truth.



McClory speaking in Northern California

The Coming Democratization of the Catholic Church is the topic of Bob McClory's recent book and of his current California tour with CTA Resources Developer Bob Heineman. Events are 3/13 in Palo Alto, 3/14 in Walnut Creek, 3/15 in Sacramento, and 3/16 in Santa Rosa. CDs and DVDs of Bob's presentation at CTA National Conference last November are on sale at www.cta-usa.org See page 7.

CTA asks Cardinal George to "correct" Bruskewitz; Judge Merz responds

CTA's JustChurch Campaign continues non-violent efforts to move Lincoln, Neb., Bishop Fabian Bruskewitz to comply fully with the USCCB Dallas Charter to protect children and young people from sexual abuse. CTA



Michael R. Merz

recently wrote Cardinal Francis George, USCCB president, asking him to exercise fraternal correction toward Bruskewitz. A copy of the letter went to Federal Judge Michael R. Merz of Dayton, Ohio, who chairs the USCCB National Review Board.

Merz wrote back. Here are excerpts:

The NRB is of course concerned with the same issues of noncompliance (in the Lincoln diocese) which you raise. We have mentioned them each time we have made our annual report on implementation. Two years ago Bishop Bruskewitz responded with dismissive and indeed derisive comments about the Board.

Cardinal George has no legal power to compel compliance; only the Holy See can do that. While Bishop Bruskewitz has the legal authority to refuse to comply, one must wonder why he would stand on a point of law when children's safety is at issue and the Church has suffered so much from lack of vigilance. One is reminded of Matthew 20: 25-26: "You know that rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and the great ones make their authority over them felt. But it shall not be so among you."

Thank you for your support of the Charter. It needs the vigilant support of all members of the Church.

To follow the JustChurch Campaign in Lincoln, St. Louis, and other sites of church injustice, and to learn how to help, visit www.cta-usa.org and click on [Just Church](#).

Fr. Bozek compares the church to an abusive family

Extended excerpts of the personal reflection written by Fr. Marek Bozek after the archbishop of St. Louis began proceedings to remove him from the priesthood:

As a Catholic priest I am often called “father”. One cannot help thinking of the Church (as) a family...

As a parish priest I have witnessed many marriages. Unfortunately, I have also listened to stories of spousal and family abuse, when one of the spouses, mostly the wife, faces an extremely painful dilemma... No matter how destructive divorce appears to be, there are instances when it is the lesser evil, especially when (the) well-being of children is endangered. In some cases, remaining with the abusive spouse enables him/her to continue the abuse. Sometimes the spouse has the moral obligation to take his or her children and leave the abusive spouse behind.

The Catholic (Church) family can be described today as abusive. For decades we have allowed the men who claim to be our shepherds to abuse us and our children. The sexual abuse of minors and the even bigger scandal of how it was mishandled by our bishops is only one example. Even if those heinous crimes never happened, there exists a pattern of abuse that the “silent giant”, that is, laity, have tolerated for generations... By quiet resignation and indifference of 99 percent of the Church’s members, the abuse has been allowed to become part of the everyday life of the Roman Catholic family. For centuries the hierarchy had been persecuting scientists and activists disagreeing with its geocentric vision of the universe or with its acceptance of slavery... Today such persecution is directed toward

- women refused their right to receive holy orders,
- divorced and remarried people,
- priests who wish to continue their ministry (in a married life,
- lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender members,

- anyone who dares to think and vote contrary to the local bishop’s instruction,
- thousands of people who witnessed their churches being closed and sold to pay for the mistakes of the bishops,
- anyone who is mentioning the spirit of the Second Vatican Council...

How much longer should the mothers and fathers in our Catholic family silently tolerate such an abuse? Should we wait until the only ones who are satisfied with their bishops are their rich sponsors and those attending the Tridentine Masses? Do miter and purple vestments authorize anyone to treat us the way you would never allow your children to be treated?

About three years ago I was called upon by the family of St. Stanislaus Church to be their shepherd. I decided to answer this call of a sacramentally starved congregation. The parish board and I were excommunicated for basically refusing to let the parish wither and die. Today I am faced with another canonical penalty – laicization... due to my “contumacy of schism” and my presence at the ordination of two women to the priesthood through the Roman Catholic WomenPriest movement. Why did I attend that ordination? I could not tolerate the abuse of my sisters any longer... the injustice to all those women graced by God with the priestly vocation. If I am ever to be worthy of the “father” title, I need to stand beside my sisters... I have to let the abusers know that I do not agree with treating the members of my family with abuse...

At St. Stanislaus we have opened our doors to all who seek refuge from the abusive men in crimson robes. It is not an issue of promoting a feminist, gay and lesbian, left or right wing, Polish or African-American, or any other agenda. It is an issue of bringing an end to the abuse of those I love. If it means my excommunication and laicization, so be it. I shall not be silent any more. So help me God.

Rev. Marek B. Bozek, M.Div., Pastor

A few of the many e-mails CTA received after asking members to pray with and for Fr. Bozek as he met with the archbishop Feb. 5:

Prayers and blessings coming for Fr. Marek.

Mary Betz, Auckland, New Zealand

Our prayers will be with him, big time!

Gwen & Tom Umlauf, Gainesville, Fla.

Dignum et Justum Est

Many years ago, I/we, members of the Diocese of Olancho, Honduras, were subjected to a similar kind of abuse by the archbishop of Tegucigalpa. Your story sounds familiar, yet fresh and haunting. As a priest, now married, I understand Fr. Marek’s angst. This brother walks this path with you.

Dick Preston, Lansing, Mich.

I am proud for the first time in a long time to be a Catholic, in the company of a brave, honest man like Fr. Bozek. I will be praying for him and sending an additional donation to Call To Action. Maybe this church can be saved after all.

Georgia Hart, Pinkerington, Ohio

Reading about Fr. Bozek and the threat to laicize him was very disturbing. Our parish has a priest from Poland, and I find his sermons on the Gospel strikingly refreshing. Knowing our priest’s deep love for Christ, the Church, and his priesthood, I would think that Fr. Bozek’s love for Christ, Church and priesthood would be equally strong. I pray that Archbishop Burke in his pastoral wisdom will find a way to use the work of Fr. Bozek for the good of the Church and St. Louis.

Joseph W. Ruane, PhD, Philadelphia, Pa.

My prayers and support are with Fr. Bozek for his courage and openness.

Pat Otilio, RSM, Riverside, Ohio

Over 250 kept an hourlong vigil in the rain outside the Archdiocesan Court Feb. 5 where Fr. Bozek was meeting with Archbishop Burke.

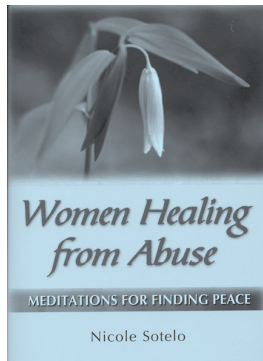


Resources for healing, action, nonviolence: three reviews

Women Healing from Abuse, by Nicole Sotelo. (Paulist Press, 2007)

Reviewed by Tara Dix Osborne

After an experience of abuse, many people feel separated from their faith or may



question God's presence in their lives. And for those who seek professional counseling, a spiritual aspect of the healing process, although crucial to a wholistic renewal, is

often missing. This is where Nicole Sotelo's *Women Healing from Abuse* comes in as a daily prayer companion.

Sotelo walks the victim-survivor through the three phases of healing with 28 meditations. The first phase is finding a place of safety, both physically and emotionally, from the person who abused her. Second is remembering and mourning what happened and what she lost as a result. Third is reconnecting to the world and people around her, as well as to her faith, and continuing on the road of her life story.

Each meditation has three parts: a scripture reading, a reflection, and suggested responses or actions to take throughout the day. The meditations can take as little as ten minutes or as long the participant chooses to reflect and respond with the suggested activities. Sotelo's words are gentle and the meditations are careful not to rush the participant beyond her abilities at that point in the healing process, which is why each entry includes responses as simple as repeated mantras and as in-depth as fieldtrips to special places.

This guide will help especially those women who were harmed by clergy or another representative of the church, or someone who used the victim's faith and beliefs as a tool against them. It will aid all victims in dealing with the universal question: "Where was God when I was being harmed?"

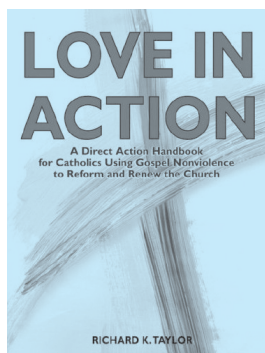
Tara Dix Osborne is the book review editor for Call To Action publications. She is a writer and editor in Chicago.

Love in Action: A Direct Action Handbook for Catholics Using Gospel Nonviolence to Reform and Renew the Church, by Richard K. Taylor. (R.K. Taylor Press, 2007)

Reviewed by Karen Dix

It's easy to become discouraged when we see the ways our church can stray from the just and righteous vision of Jesus. But newfound inspiration is available in the form of Richard K. Taylor's new handbook, *Love in Action*, which is chock-full of examples of people throughout history who have used nonviolent methods to effect change.

Taylor takes these great stories and shows



the reader how to apply the principles in the most practical and immediate ways, ways that can be applied to our own life situations, from the intra-parish level to the

grandest scale

of our church as a whole. Taylor makes it clear, though, that this desire for change is based on love for the church, not a desire to dismantle it.

The greatest strength of this book is its thoroughness. It's packed with every nonviolent method one could choose, giving sound advice on all the possible results and reactions to these methods and what to do in those eventualities. Taylor calls on his 50-plus years of activism to guide the reader through the 12 steps of gospel nonviolence, and the lessons are suitable both for the individual reader and small groups.

Above all, Taylor reminds us that in the midst of conflict we must always keep our eyes on Jesus; that is our model. No matter what anybody says or does, we never strike back with harmful words or actions, and we always honor the person we disagree with as a child of God. We could all take a page from this book.

Karen Dix is a religious educator and writer from Addison, Ill.

Traveling with the Turtle, by Cindy Preston-Pile and Irene Woodward (Pace e Bene Press, 2006)

Reviewed by Kaye Ashe

The third wave of the feminist movement has transformed the way that women understand ourselves and our relationship to the Divine, to others, and to the earth that sustains us. The work of freeing ourselves and all from violence and injustice is, however, far from accomplished. That's where *Traveling with the Turtle* comes into play. The authors, well-versed in the literature of feminism and nonviolence, invite us to come together in circles to draw sustenance from our spiritual moorings, heal wounds, join in rituals, and hone our peace-making skills.

The book provides 13 sessions for small groups of women. The beauty is that it brings together so many resources: short, provocative readings; guided meditations; rituals; and various exercises and life practice. The authors suggest in detail how facilitators can prepare for each session, outlining materials needed and the timing for each item on the agenda. This practical guidance ensures that participants needn't worry that time will be consumed in pointless chatter, and facilitators needn't worry about dreaming up the kind of environment and activities that make for a smooth and productive small group process.

I strongly recommend this book to women who are serious about the spiritual quest and who want to counter the violence that plagues our homes, our neighborhoods, and our world by cultivating peace and loving-kindness.

Kaye Ashe, O.P., resides in Berkeley, Calif., and is the author of *The Feminization of the Church?* This review was originally published in *New Women, New Church*, the newsletter of the Women's Ordination Conference, Winter 2007.

Please remember CTA
in your will.

Our legal name is "Call To Action."
Contact CTA Resources Developer:
773 404-0004, ext. 263

CTA Alaska “putting women back in the biblical picture”

Nearly 100 enthusiastic folks braved 30-below temperatures Jan. 26 in Fairbanks to hear Sr. Chris Schenk of FutureChurch speak on the Women and the Word (WATW). CTA/AK's Marjorie Cole got a great interview on statewide NPR radio and a feature article in the Fairbanks newspaper. The next day over 80 people arrived in balmy 7 degree weather for a similar program in Anchorage. Schenk gave an audiovisual presentation on women leaders in the early Church and explained how CTAs can participate in the WATW campaign.

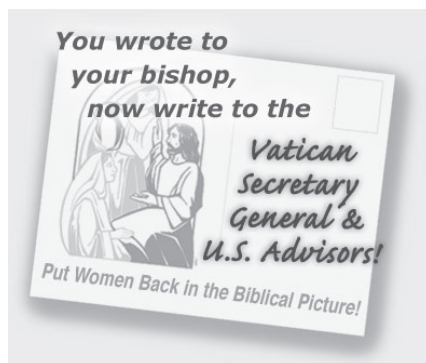
The campaign asks the Vatican's October Synod on the Word to “put women back in the biblical picture” by inviting women biblical scholars to the synod, expanding opportunities for women preachers, devoting more pastoral attention to Jesus and St. Paul's inclusion of women leaders, and restoring women to lectionary texts from which their witness was diminished or deleted. Last year bishops all over North America got paper and electronic postcards from 3,500 Catholics. Now FutureChurch is asking supporters to write to Synod officials. On the FutureChurch website (www.futurechurch.org) you can send a new electronic postcard to the archbishop who will run the synod, and automatically copy Archbishop Wuerl of Washington, a synod advisor, Cardinal Francis George, the USCCB president, and the pope.

Sr. Dorothy Hennessey, peace activist, dead at 94

Franciscan Sr. Dorothy Hennessey of Dubuque, Iowa, a CTA member since 1993 and a peace activist who served time in federal prison at age 88 for civil disobedience during the annual vigil and protest at the School of the Americas, died in January at age 94. CTA and CTA News paid tribute to Dorothy and her sibling, Sr. Gwen Hennessey, when they were arrested at Fort Benning, Ga., in November 2000, and when they and 24 others went to prison for six months in 2001. When the SOA Watch weekend vigil occurs this year — Nov. 21-23 — CTA-USA will dedicate its inclusive celebration of the Eucharist to the memory of Sr. Dorothy.



Chris Schenk (left) is happy to meet a resourceful Catholic feminist theologian already on the scene with CTA Alaska in Anchorage. Regina Boisclair, Ph.D., holds the Cardinal Newman Chair of Catholic Theology at Alaska Pacific University in Anchorage. Boisclair has done her own research into the neglect of biblical women in the lectionary currently used in the Roman Catholic liturgy.



Late news on late popes

The Scent of a Saint - Now at last you can smell like Pope Pius IX. The pope's own cologne, “aristocratic, Old World with surprising freshness,” is available to the masses for just \$25.95 a bottle or \$156 for a dozen bottles. We are not making this up. Go check www.thepopescologne.com. It will undoubtedly make you feel more self-confident, maybe even infallible.

Sneezing and Sex? - Pope Urban VIII (1623-1644) issued a worldwide ban on tobacco because its use prompted sneezing,

Ritual no comfort to survivors

A “Mass of Remembrance for Sex Abuse Survivors” was celebrated recently at a Newton, Mass., parish, by Bishop John Dooher, an auxiliary bishop in the Boston archdiocese. Instead of being comforted, many survivors and their advocates were enraged. Fr. Tom Doyle, a principal canon lawyer/advocate for abuse survivors since the 1980s, wrote a long letter trying to explain why. Here is an excerpt:

... One of the fundamental problems with our Catholic approach to serious problems is the belief that some form of liturgy will bring a solution. A ritual or ceremony is no response to a deeply ingrained policy of enabling clergy sexual abusers, re-victimizing victims and avoiding accountability for the ultimate source of the problem. The members of the clerical world, from priests to popes, have had ample opportunity to take the risk of reaching out to the men and women severely wounded by sexual abuse. Yet with very, very few exceptions, there has been no honest or effective pastoral outreach. A small number of priests and one bishop in the U.S. have extended themselves and stood with victims. All have been penalized in some way or another. The victims know this. How can you or anyone expect them to take a liturgy seriously when true pastoral care has not only been ignored but refused?

Rev. Tom Doyle

according to the Chicago Tribune. The pope said sneezing has a close resemblance to sexual ecstasy. Urban did not explain how he came to this conclusion.

Simony Scandal Snuffed Out - The Diocese of Rome has been ordered to stop selling pieces of Pope John Paul II's cassock. They had been going like hotcakes since 2006 for a fee to relic fans. Now, said the Vatican, they can only be given away — but an optional fee can be requested for packing and postage.

Calendar

March 25 - **15th World Day of Prayer for Women's Ordination: Imagining and Creating an Inclusive Church.** Prayer service at www.womensordination.org. List your event: 703 352-1006. nvazquez@womensordination.org

March 25 - **Evening with Michael Morwood:** The Need to Re-shape Christian Imagination. CTA Tucson. Call To_Action_Tucson@yahoo.com or Laurie Olson at 520 615-0183

March 29 - **So. Calif. Lay Convocation: A Calling Together of the Laity.** Orange, Calif. Register at www.layconvocation.org Info: 714 847-6617 or socallayconvocation@yahoo.com

March 29-30 - **Roman Catholic Woman Priest Toni Tortorilla and Deacon Ruth Broeski** celebrate liturgies in Seattle and Olympia, Wash. CTA W. Washington. Details: www.ctaww.org

March 29-30 - **Michael Morwood at CTA Wis.** 3/29: Milwaukee area. 3/30: Adams-Friendship, Wis. ctawisconsin@sbcglobal.net

April 3 - **Dismantling Racism** - Eve. program, CTA Pittsburgh, Allison Park, Pa. tdempsey1@comcast.net

April 5 - **Women Officeholders in the Early Church:** Retreat with Chris Schenk. Cincinnati, Ohio. 513 679-8191. rketman@ohsnd.org

April 5 - **Retreat Day with Sr. Jeannine Gramick** at Rincon Congregational Church, Tucson, Ariz. Sponsors: Rincon & CTA Tucson. Amber St. John at w1wiv@yahoo.com or 520 820-7606

April 6 - **In Good Conscience** - Talk by Sr. Jeannine Gramick about her battle on behalf of our LGBT brothers & sisters. CTA Tucson. (See 3/25 above)

April 18-20 - **Go In Peace: A Retreat for Christian Women Healing from Abuse** - Nicole Sotelo. Harwich Port, Mass. www.evensongretreat.com

April 19 - **Michael Morwood: Faith Questions for 21st Century Christians** - S.W. Fla. CTA & Lamb of God Lutheran-Episcopal Church, Estero, Fla. 239 390-0880 or jmcnally1@juno.com

April 21-25 - **Edwina Gateley: One Woman's Journey of Faith** - Upstate NY CTA Speakers Along the Thruway tour. 4/21, Albany; 4/22, Utica; 4/23, Syracuse; 4/24, Rochester; 4/25, Buffalo. Contact Mike Toner, 716 636-1533.

April 24 - **Women Officeholders in the Early Church** - Chris Schenk csj. Archaeological evidence; hidden women of the lectionary. Lima, Ohio. 419 999-4647 or jan@wcoil.com

April 25-27 - **Rebuild My Church: Responding Creatively to Injustice** - West Coast CTA Conference: John Dear, SJ, Bishop Remi De Roo, workshops. San Jose, Calif. www.ctanorcal.org

April 26 - **Michael Morwood at Community of Hope** - Madison, Wis. bjdiedergreen1@mac.com or 608 669-2886.

May 3 - **Beyond Protests and Petitions: Changing the World Through Effective Nonviolent Action.** A day of workshops.



Wellesley, Mass. CTA New England. Sharon Shepela at shepela@hartford.edu

May 10 - **From Sand To Solid Ground** - All-day workshop with Michael Morwood. Seattle. CTA W. Washington www.ctaww.org or 360 357-6207.

May 12 - **From Sand To Solid Ground** - Michael Morwood at CTA Central Oregon. Bend, Ore. www.CTACO.org or 541 617-3991

May 16-17 - **Reversing the Decline of the Catholic Church in 21st Century USA.** Fri. eve: **Australia Bishop Geoffrey Robinson** discusses his book, *Confronting Power and Sex in the Catholic Church*. Saturday: **David Efrogmson, Robert Blair Kaiser, Joseph O'Callaghan, Chris Schenk, Paul Stanosz, Len Swidler.** Sponsored by Assn. for the Rights of Catholics in the Church, VotF Greater Phila., others. Details: cmcmahon@lrsm.upenn.edu

May 17 - **Questions of Faith for Modern Christians** - Michael Morwood at Sacramento CTA, Sacramento, Calif. 209 295-2151 or graycall@volcano.net

May 21 - **Married Catholic Priests** - Fr. Rod Damico at CTA Columbus. 614 538-0172 or panders1@columbus.rr.com

May 23-25 - **Radical Inclusiveness: Ministry of Jesus Today** - Retreat for lesbian/gay Catholics, parents, ministers, friends - Anthony Gittins, CSSp. Racine, Wis. Catholic Parents' Network, New Ways Ministry: 301 277-5674 or NewWaysM@verizon.net

May 30-June 1 - **Next Steps: Developing Catholic Lesbian/Gay Ministry** - Frank DeBernardo, Matt Myers. For pastoral ministers, leaders, seekers. Ossining, N.Y. New Ways Ministry: 301 277-5674 or NewWaysM@verizon.net

June 7 - **Confronting Power and Sex in the Catholic Church** - Australian Bishop Geoffrey Robinson discusses his book. Seattle, Wash. CTA Western Wash. www.ctaww.org.

June 8-9 - **Why the Church Needs Rebels** - Retreat with Edwina Gateley. Harwich Port, Mass. 508-432-0027 or info@evensongretreat.com

Parish life in Rio Grande Valley

Session II of the Lay Congress in Brownsville, Tex., diocese Feb. 23 was about *The Parish: A Gospel Community*. Speaker Roger Karban, shown chatting with Dora Saavedra of CTA Rio Grande Valley, was the speaker. He discussed the scriptural foundation of Christian communities and the call to discipleship. The all-day program drew some 40 Catholics from all over the diocese. (Photo: Jerry Brazier)

June 19 - **History of Women's Ordination in the Catholic Church** - Nicole Sotelo, CTA staff. CTA Columbus (Ohio). 614 538-0172. panders1@columbus.rr.com.

July 11-13 - **Convention for the Common Good** - Philadelphia. Co-sponsors: NETWORK, Pax Christi USA, Center of Concern, Catholics in Alliance, other Catholic groups. Goal: build and pass an election year Platform for the Common Good. 7/10: Pax Christi USA lead-in event with worship, music, speakers. www.networklobby.org/ConventionMainPage.htm

July 11-13 - **SNAP (Survivors Network of Those Abused by Priests) National Conference** - Frank Keating, Marci Hamilton. Chicago, Ill. SNAPnetwork.org or snapporris@gmail.com

July 18-20 - **Inclusive Ministry & Renewal in a Complex Age** - Joint Conference by WOC, FCM, CORPUS, RCWP. Matthew Fox, Jane Via, Jean Marchant. Boston, Mass. www.corpus.org

Sept. 18 - **18th Annual FutureChurch Benefit**, Cleveland. Kathleen Kennedy Townsend on her book, *Failing America's Faithful: How Today's Churches are Mixing God with Politics and Losing Their Way*. annmarie@futurechurch.org. or 216 228-0869

Oct. 7-16 - **Rome: Pilgrimage to Archaeological Sites of Women Officeholders in the Early Church** with Sr. Chris Schenk and Dr. Janet Tulloch. Visit www.futurechurch.org for free brochure or contact 216 228-0869, ext. 6.

Bob Heineman is the staff liaison to chapters. HeinemanCTA@juno.com or 773 404-0004 x 263. Lena Woltering, chapter organizer, will help with local CTA organizing: FOSILIZE@aol.com or 260 432-3661

CTA chapters and regional contacts

are listed on our website:

www.cta-usa.org

and will also be printed in April CTA News.

CALL TO ACTION 2007 NATIONAL CONFERENCE: Milwaukee, Wis.
AUDIOTAPE, CD AND VIDEO ORDER FORM

Check the audiotape (A), compact disc (CD), or DVD of your choice next to each presentation and complete the form below.

Audiotapes and CDs: \$14.95 DVDs: \$24.95



Jamie T. Phelps, OP
Church as Communion: Embodying the Vision of Jesus - We claim to be descendants of that community empowered by the risen Christ and

the Holy Spirit. So we are called to continue embodying the Vision of Christ as we make visible the church as communion.

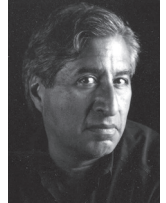
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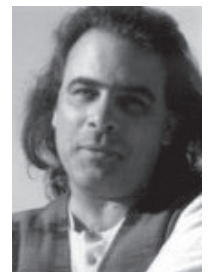
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