

# VOICES VOICES VOICES



Vol III, No. 2

Summer 1988

## 1988 CONFERENCE

# *Faith & Family In Action!*

### **MSGR. KELLY TO KEYNOTE**

The Rev. Monsignor George A. Kelly, of St. John's University in New York will present the keynote address to the fourth annual conference of Women for Faith and Family to be held in St. Louis October 14 - 16. Other speakers will also address the conference theme, **Catholic Women and 'The Catholic Moment': Faith and Family in Action.**

The conference will convene at the Chase Hotel in mid-town St. Louis, near Forest Park and the St. Louis Cathedral. Masses for the conference will be held at the Cathedral on Saturday and Sunday. His Eminence, John Joseph, Cardinal Carberry will be principal celebrant and homilist on Saturday, and The Most Rev. Charles Koester, auxiliary bishop of St. Louis on Sunday. Compline on Saturday evening at the hotel will be conducted by The Rev. Brian Van Hove, SJ.

Joanna Nash Bogle, British journalist and broadcaster who appears regularly on BBC, will speak at the conference banquet on Saturday evening. Mrs. Bogle, who is an organizer of **WWF - United Kingdom**, will address the group on "Reviving Catholic Culture."

Other conference speakers will be The Rev. Joseph Fessio, SJ, of Ignatius Press in San Francisco and editor of the American edition of **30 Days**, who will discuss the Pope's teaching on women; Michael Schwartz, director of the Catholic Center in Washington, D.C., and well-known writer and lecturer; Cornelia Ferreira, writer and staff member of WWF-Canada; and Helen Hull Hitchcock, of WWF's St. Louis staff.

Monsignor Kelly is one of the most distinguished leaders in the Catholic Church in America. He was Director of Education for the Archdiocese of New York under Cardinals Spellman and Cooke, was the 1979 recipient of the Cardinal Wright Award, and organized the Fellowship of Catholic Scholars in 1976. Among his best known books is **The Battle for the American Church**. A two volume work on the Church in America will appear soon. Drawing on his extensive pastoral as well as scholarly experience, Msgr. Kelly will address the conference on "Motherly Aspects of Womanhood."

For a complete conference schedule and registration forms, see inside. All conference sessions will be available on audio cassette tapes. Convenient transportation from Lambert International Airport to the hotel via Airport Limousine. Free parking is available at the Chase Hotel with conference registration. *Please Register Early!*

### **POPE TO ISSUE STATEMENT ON WOMEN . . .**

To mark the end of the Marian Year (August 15), Pope John Paul II has announced he will issue a statement on women. The document, which will incorporate findings of the Synod on the Laity is expected to appear in translation by October. Please pray with us that the teaching of our Chief Shepherd on this "loaded" subject will promote understanding of Church teachings, and will help our bishops as they consider the draft "pastoral response to women's concerns."

### **RESPONDING TO THE "RESPONSE"**

The first draft of "Partners in the Mystery of Redemption, A Pastoral Response to Women's Concerns" (PMR) was presented at the June meeting of the National Council of Catholic Bishops, but not discussed in detail. A more thorough discussion of the pastoral will likely take place at the November meeting of the NCCB. It is certain that Pope John Paul II's statement on women, as well as his Exhortation following the Synod on the Laity (both expected this fall) will be taken into account by the bishops in their deliberations on PMR.

Some dioceses have initiated another series of "listening sessions" as part of the "consultation process" following PMR's appearance, and have invited response by individuals and organizations.

We encourage **all** to read the pastoral (which should be available from your diocese), and to respond both to your bishop and to the NCCB pastoral committee. Address: **The Committee For A Pastoral In Response To Women's Concerns**, 1312 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005. We have prepared sample study/response questions which you may use for your written response. (You may wish to concentrate on one aspect.) See back page for these questions.

REMINDER: If "listening sessions" are held in your diocese, please **go** — take a friend (or several). Be prepared to speak out. Remember, it is the **Church** we're defending, not ourselves. It is important for **your voice** to be heard.





**England -** The correct address of **Clare Anderson**, WFF-United Kingdom organizer, is 12, Pirbright Road, Farnborough, Hants./GU14 7AD/England.

**Australia -** **Babette Francis**, in the United States recently on a speaking tour, met with Helen Hitchcock to discuss issues and actions of mutual interest. Dr. Francis is a leader of pro-family activities in Australia, and of **Endeavour Forum**, a pro-family political advocacy organization of women.

**Netherlands -** **A. M. Anthonisse** and **J. J. M. van den Toorn-Jansen** of VRKK, WFF's "sister organization" in Holland, report encouraging discussions with their apostolic nuncio in December when they presented their AFFIRMATION signatures. Their meetings during the Marian Year focused on "The Marian Dimension of Christian Life". Cardinal Adrianus Simonis addressed 245 women at their March '88 meeting on "The Marian Dimension of Companionship."

**VRKK** now has more than 550 members, and has organized a young women's group with more than 60 members. Their theme for the '88-89 season will be "Bearing Responsibility."

**Spain -** **Marta Dalfo** of the **Instituto de Ciencias para la Familia** in Pamplona has contacted WFF to exchange information about the common activities of the **Instituto** and WFF. Stay tuned . . .

**Washington -** The North American branch of the **John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family** will open in the fall in Washington, D.C. The Institute will offer a course of studies leading to the licentiate in the Theology of Marriage and Family, and is part of the John Paul II Institute in the Pontifical Lateran University. For further information, contact **Carl A. Anderson**, John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family, 487 Michigan Ave., NE, Washington, D.C., 20017-1585.

**Princeton -** **Cardinal Edouard Gagnon** addressed a conference celebrating the twentieth anniversary of **Humanae Vitae** sponsored by the Roman Academic Center Foundation at Princeton University, August 7-12. **Bernard N. Nathanson, M.D.** gave the keynote address. Among other speakers were Bishop Austin Vaughan, Dr. Janet Smith, George Gilder, Dr. Allan Carlson, Bishop John Myers, Dr. Jacqueline Kasun, Colleen Kelly Mast, James and Helen Hull Hitchcock, John and Anne Roche Muggeridge, and Dr. Donald De Marco.

**Peoria -** Sixty seminarians are enrolled in the Peoria Diocesan Seminary, according to auxiliary **Bishop John Myers**. All seminarians attended a natural family planning conference held in Bloomington, Illinois in late July.

**Middleburg, VA -** Sr. Mary Elise, Director of the **Consortium Perfectae Caritatis** reports several inquiries about membership in this organization of women religious following the appearance in June of the Joint Statement on the women's pastoral issued by the **Constortium, the Institute on Religious Life and Women for Faith and Family**. To contact the **Consortium** write **Sr. Mary Elise, SND**, P.O. Box 1856, Middleburg, VA 22117, or **The Rev. James A. Viall**, 11411 Detroit Ave., Cleveland, OH 44102.



**VOICES** is published by **Women for Faith and Family**, P. O. Box 8326, St. Louis, Missouri 63132, and distributed to signers of the **AFFIRMATION FOR CATHOLIC WOMEN**.

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Editorial mail should be addressed to **VOICES c/o Women for Faith and Family**, P. O. Box 8326, St. Louis, Missouri 63132.

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Women for Faith & Family P.O. Box 8326 St. Louis, Mo. 63132

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Dear Friend,

WOMEN FOR FAITH & FAMILY is unique among organizations needing your support. There is no other nationally recognized Catholic women's organization in this country which consistently and clearly speaks out with voices of fidelity, not dissent, to express "women's concerns" about the Church and society.

There are many fine groups dedicated to defend decency, the Christian faith, the family and the unborn -- but there is only one WFF. With your help, we have worked hard to prove false the claim of some feminists and "professional religious" women to speak for ALL Catholic women as they pressure the Bishops and clergy to capitulate to their radical agenda.

We are convinced that WFF must remain active to help your voices to be heard. We cannot allow dissenters to continue to steal the limelight with the press or to scandalize faithful Catholics any longer. We must continue to help inform, educate and assist Catholic women across the country. Our voices must grow stronger to overcome those which undermine and misrepresent the Church.

But we cannot do this without YOU, and we can't do it without funds!

Although WFF has collected over 30,000 signatures to the AFFIRMATION FOR CATHOLIC WOMEN nationwide, we can send VOICES only to a limited list. (And even then, not as often as we would like.) Instead, we have to choose names which include our strongest and hardest workers -- our "leaders." YOURS is one of those names!

We really have no choice but to write to you, who have already done so much to help us, to ask for further help. Of course, we understand that everyone cannot send \$25, \$20, or even \$15. But many of you can, and some can send even more! Most could probably send something as a token of your support and encouragement to the WFF volunteers who spend many hours working for you.

We do hate to ask, but we must. Many of your valuable suggestions for WFF activities have to be put 'on hold' because we simply don't have the \_\_\_\_\_ funds and personnel. For example, all of WFF's voluminous correspondence, published articles, news releases and communication with Bishops and other Church leaders on the Pastoral on Women and other topics have been done without the aid of a word-processor. Just to be able to buy a word processor or a personal computer would be helpful. (Tremendously helpful!)

As you look over this issue of VOICES, you will see some of the things we have accomplished and still have to do -- including the exciting Conference coming up! WFF is counting on your prayers, your work and, we hope, your financial support. Please let us hear from you soon. A reply envelope is enclosed.

Sincerely in Christ,  
THE WFF STAFF

P.S. If your donation is \$25. or more, we will send you a complimentary tape from the conference on your request. Gifts are tax-deductible.



**Fourth Annual Women for Faith and Family Conference**  
**CATHOLIC WOMEN AND THE "CATHOLIC MOMENT": FAITH AND FAMILY IN ACTION**  
**October 14 - 16, 1988**  
*The Chase Park Plaza Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri*

**PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

**Friday, October 14**

3:00 pm Registration Opens  
 4-6 pm Reception (Cash Bar)  
 8:00 pm Keynote Address:  
 "Motherly Aspects of Womanhood"  
*The Rev. Msgr. George A. Kelly*

**Saturday, October 15**

8:45 am Opening Prayers and Introduction to  
 Conference  
 9:00 am "Valiant Women: Vigorous Faith"  
*Helen Hull Hitchcock*  
 10:00 am Break  
 10:15 am "Rights of the Family"  
*Michael Schwartz*  
 11:15 am Announcements, Recess  
 12 NOON MASS at ST. LOUIS CATHEDRAL  
*Cardinal Carberry,*  
*celebrant and homilist*  
 1:15 pm Lunch - Zodiac Room  
 2:30 pm "Forming the Future: Catholic Families  
 & Education" *Cornelia Ferreira*  
 3:30 pm Break  
 3:45-5:00 Panel and "Open Mike"  
 5:30 pm Social Hour (Cash Bar)  
 6:30 pm BANQUET: "Feasts and Seasons: Reviving  
 Catholic Culture" *Joanna Nash Bogle*  
 8:30 pm Compline *The Rev. Brian Van Hove, SJ,*  
*celebrant*

**Sunday, October 16**

9:00 am Opening Prayers  
 9:15 am "Women in the Church and in the World:  
 Dimensions of Papal Teaching"  
*The Rev. Joseph Fessio, SJ*  
 10:30 am Panel: "Faith and Family in Action:  
 Looking Ahead"  
 11:30 am Closing comments; prayer  
 12 NOON MASS at ST. LOUIS CATHEDRAL  
*Bishop Charles Koester,*  
*celebrant and homilist*



**REGISTRATION**

**MAIL TO: WWF Conference, P.O. Box 8326, St. Louis, MO 63132**

**CONFERENCE FEES:**

Registration all sessions, plus Saturday Lunch (free parking included) ..... \$45.00  
 Saturday Banquet (Extra) ..... \$20.00  
 Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ additional banquet tickets @ \$20.00 ..... AMOUNT: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*Special arrangements at door for priests, religious & students* **TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please register early! Questions? Call Christine Crowe (314) 863-5591.*

( ) I am unable to attend, but here is my tax-deductible contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to help with expenses.

**LODGING RESERVATIONS**

**MAIL TO: Reservations Manager, The Chase Hotel, 212 N. Kingshighway, St. Louis, MO 63108**  
**WOMEN FOR FAITH & FAMILY CONFERENCE, OCTOBER 14 - 16, 1988**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Bus. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Check Accomodations Required:**

Single - \$50 rate/night     Double - \$50 rate/night     Triple - \$60 rate/night     Quad - \$70 rate/night

In order to guarantee this reservation, I am charging the deposit on my credit card:  MasterCard     VISA     Am. Exp.

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ or Enclosed is my personal check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (One day's rate)

All rates subject to state & local taxes. Refund on 72 hours advance notice of cancellation.

CHECK IN TIME: 3:00 p.m.    CHECK OUT TIME: 1:00 p.m.

**THIS FORM MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 30, 1988**



## SOCIOLOGIST COMMENTS ON "SEXIST" LANGUAGE

Peter Berger, professor of sociology at Boston University, a well-known author and a Lutheran, was asked his opinion of "inclusive language" by a reporter from AMERICA magazine after a lecture. Professor Berger's comments, as reported in the *Religion & Society Report* (June, 1988), are particularly timely.

Commenting that he finds "inclusive" language offensive and literally exclusive, he says that "it is not what people pretend it to be — namely, a rectification of a past discrimination of exclusion. But it is precisely ideological-political jargon." Professor Berger points out that inclusive language "is not like the change in racial language in the South, where there was an according of respect to people who were previously excluded from respect", but "an ideological jargon whose purpose is to compel ideological allegiance in a symbolic fashion. That is why I find it offensive."

He illustrates his point by citing an attempt by Mussolini to "reform" the Italian language in the 1930's. The accepted word form for formal address in Italian is *lei*. But, said Berger, "since the purpose of the fascist revolution was to restore Roman virility to the Italian people, the good fascist did not say *lei* (which Mussolini believed to be a degenerate, effeminate usage); the good fascist said *voi* — from the Latin *vos* . . . From that point on, everyone who used *lei* or *voi* was conscious of being engaged in a political act.

"Now, in terms of the empirical facts of the Italian language, what Mussolini said was nonsense. But the effect of that speech meant an awful lot, and it was intended to mean an awful lot. Because from that moment on, every time you said *lei* in Italy you were making an anti-fascist gesture, consciously or unconsciously — and people made you conscious of it if you were unconscious. And every time you said *voi* you were making the linguistic equivalent of the fascist salute.

"That is what inclusive language means. And that is why it should not be used in the Church."

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## NEW U.S. LAY MEMBERS OF PCF —

Mike and Rita Marker are new appointees by Pope John Paul II as Members of the Pontifical Council for the Family for the next five-year period as representatives of the USA. They join Virgil and Ann Dechant, who were re-appointed for another five-year term, and about two dozen married couples from around the world as consulting members of the PCF, which is headed by Edouard, Cardinal Gagnon. Members participate in meetings held in Rome by the Council, along with bishop-representatives from various countries. The North-American Representative is Bishop Thomas Welsh, of Allentown, PA.

Rita Marker, an AFFIRMATION signer, heads the Human Life Center in Steubenville, Ohio, and is a well-known writer, and lecturer defending and promoting Catholic teaching on human life issues. Another member of the PCF is Dr. Marie-Nignon Masacarenhas, of Bangalore, India. Dr. Masacarenhas, also an AFFIRMATION signer, met with WFF staff and other local pro-life leaders last summer to discuss her work with natural family planning in India, as reported in VOICES (Spring, '88).

## SCHOOL-BASED CLINIC UPDATE

The heated controversy over school-based clinics, or "wellness" centers as they are often called, shows no sign of resolution.

Proponents defend the establishment of such clinics in the schools claiming they are "health" clinics designed to provide young people with better access to quality health care as well as treating problems associated with alcohol, drugs and STDs (sexually transmitted diseases).

Opponents claim SBCs aren't really health clinics at all but rather family planning clinics designed to dispense contraceptives and refer for abortions. Locating such "sex" clinics in the schools allows easy (even compulsory) access to students and effectively eliminates parental control and consent.

Recently some strong and encouraging statements have been made by our Bishops on this matter. Commenting on the fall NCCB statement regarding SBCs, Bishop James P. Keleher of Belleville, Illinois, summed up the purpose of SBCs:

"School-based clinics have little or nothing to do with attending to the health of our children in public schools. They are not meant to be in the business of passing out aspirins — may I be perfectly clear — they are in the business of passing out condoms and "the pill." . . . they are in the business of counseling them regarding the desirability of abortion . . . one of the reasons for locating these clinics in schools is to gain access to teenagers without their parents' involvement."

It's not hard to understand why SBC's are geared to dispense contraceptives and condoms. An August 1987 statement on SBC's by Bishop Anthony J. Bevilacqua (now Archbishop of Philadelphia), states succinctly who is behind the SBC movement:

"A National Support Center for school-based clinics has been established in Washington, DC. to promulgate their implementation. This Center is housed in the same suite occupied by the Center for Population Options, an organization dedicated to population control programs."

Such family planning providers cling to the false notion that teen sexual activity is inevitable and "safe sex" through contraceptives and condoms is the only answer.

Bishop Keleher refutes this approach: "No. The real problem is the growing attitude in our nation that we should be free to engage in premarital sexual activity. Chastity, fidelity, celibacy are increasingly regarded as outmoded virtues of a Victorian past."

Perhaps the best summary of the situation is given by Bishop Bevilacqua:

"School-based clinics or any other proposed solutions for problems caused by drugs, alcohol, unmarried teenage pregnancies, or AIDS which ignore the dignity of the person, the rights of parents, the moral as well as the physical dangers in pre-marital and extra-marital sexual activity, or the proper role of the state and its schools in our society, are unworthy and unacceptable. Such solutions would be an affront to individual and family rights and to personal and family dignity."

Such compelling statements by our Bishops cannot be ignored. Catholics must oppose sex-education devoid of moral principles and programs which would displace parental obligations and transfer them to the school or social welfare agencies.



DETAILS & REGISTRATION INSIDE!

CHASE HOTEL - ST. LOUIS

OCTOBER 14 - 16, 1988

WOMEN FOR FAITH & FAMILY

FOURTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF

**Faith And Family In Action!**

*Catholic Women and the  
Catholic Moment*



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

**— PMR STUDY/RESPONSE QUESTIONS —**

1. What do you see as key issues concerning women and the Church?
2. Does the pastoral discuss these issues adequately?
3. Are quotations from "listening sessions" representative and useful?
4. Are there women whose "concerns" were not heard?
5. What important issues are omitted or treated inadequately?
6. Are the content, context, theme and format valid? Is the title clear?
7. Are there inconsistencies within the pastoral? Do the bishops' recommendations follow consistently from Church teaching? Describe.
8. Are you satisfied with the pastoral? Why or why not?
9. Will the pastoral help people understand Church teaching on "controversial" issues? Will it promote further confusion? Comment; cite examples.
10. Comment on the overall effect of the pastoral; its implementation.
11. Comment on the "listening sessions" to which the bishops responded. (*NOTE: When referring to specific articles or sections of PMR, specify article number and line number(s).*)