

From the Collegial Board of Directors
A Thanksgiving and Christmas Greeting

Dear CORPUS Community Friends:

The after glow of our Inclusive Ministry in a Complex Age gathering in Boston with new ministry colleagues this summer continues as we look forward to our annual day of National Thanksgiving and to our World Wide day of thanksgiving, Christmas Day, 2008. We call ourselves a eucharistic community and indeed we are, it is hard not to be thankful as we recall all that has been given to us in our vocations as heralds and seeds of a new Church. In Boston we saw in living color the faces of a renewed Church and ministry.

The Lord of the Church warned his friends not to be surprised that when they went beyond the expected in living life with new expectations that they would encounter many difficulties. Still they went ahead as pilgrims and as a result saw new life springing up before their eyes. It has ever been so for pilgrims. The Boston Puritan Pilgrims were striving for freedom to serve God and one another and few though they were the torch that they helped ignite burns brightly still. May it be said of us as well.

The fruits of our striving to live freely in the Spirit of God are seen in our children and grandchildren and in the multitudes of people whose lives have been touched by our own in ways beyond our imagining. This has happened because we have pitched our tents among them as did the Word of God long ago giving rise to a star in the heavens which has burned brightly ever since as celebrated by the Prologue to the Gospel of John. As did that Word, so did we and so do we enter fully into human life with all its potentials and vulnerabilities, its joys and its sorrows.

We have much to be grateful for as citizens of the United States of America and of the Roman Catholic Church and much responsibility to bear as a result also. In both cases we are called to commensurate leadership because of the gifts we have received. In both cases grace abounds. That is what Thanksgiving and Christmas are all about. The Word dwells among us. Let us give thanks.
The CORPUS Collegial Board

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Two books :

PAGE 3 HEAD AND HEART, American Christianities, by Garry Wills NY:
The Penguin Press, 2007, 626 pp. Hardcover; \$29.95 in U.S.
Reviewed by A. Regina Schulte, M.A., Ph.D.

PAGE 40 Don’t Just Pray: Soar! by **Bill Cleary** • www.clearyworks.com

¹ 2008 Joint Conference Presentation

From the President's Desk

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By the time this message reaches you our nation will have chosen a new president and our *CORPUS* community will be engaged nationally and internationally in new ways to further our commitment to the Gospel message. Any way you look at it we will be engaged anew in learning to walk on water. Our nation faces turbulent times as does the broader world which in various ways is connected to us. Uncertainty and the necessity for change are the order of the day. We live in hope and faith by love which draws us forward out of our boats which offer some measure of safety onto the slippery, dangerous waters before us in response to the Source of all being which energizes and sustains us.

I don't have a crystal ball or a prophet's gift to know how the national presidential race will turn out. From the current news stories as I write this it is pretty plain that our nation is facing a catastrophic period financially which will generate reverberations on "Main Street" in most of our nation's towns and cities. Our nation's security will depend on how well we as a people, including the new administration and the Congress, are able to work together for the common good, a dimension that has been obscured in the heyday of the free market and the "me" generation characteristics of the last thirty years.

I wish to take this opportunity to welcome the *CORPUS* community's newest initiative, the community membership of the Community of John XXIII within *CORPUS* as a result of the decision made by the *CORPUS* Collegial Board at our July 2008 to enlarge our membership categories to include one for communities. Originally conceived by Robert Charpentier and Anthony Padovano and then more recently shepherded into existence by Linda Pinto and Mary and Richard Scaine, the Community of John XXIII is intended to be an ecumenical religious order committed to a shared spirituality quest with an expansive Christological horizon and depth. Ad Multos Annos.

Another new initiative is the **Chaplaincy Option** made possible by collaboration with the Federation of Christian Ministries (FCM) through its Religious Endorsing Body Specialized Ministries Program. *CORPUS* members who meet the educational and experience requirements for professional chaplaincy positions and who desire the ability to engage in such employment professionally may apply to FCM for participation in its **Chaplaincy Option Endorsement program** at a reduced rate. This will entail Certified Membership in FCM which opens the door for FCM Endorsement.

This reduced rate has been made possible through a collaborative agreement reached by *CORPUS* and FCM at the recent Joint Conference in Boston and as result of our participation in the National Catholic Ministries Alliance, a forum for ministerial collaboration. Robert Charpentier now represents *CORPUS* on the FCM Committee on Specialized Ministries. *CORPUS* members who desire to participate in the Chaplaincy Option and have not yet participated in or obtained (a) prerequisite Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) unit(s) may apply to FCM for Endorsement for CPE.

Clinical Pastoral Education is a form of advanced pastoral formation conducted in more than 350 accredited ministry settings in institutions such as hospitals and prisons which focuses on the ministerial interaction of the caregiver and the person to whom he/she is responding. This is done within an intentional learning community of peers and a training supervisor utilizing peer review, personal awareness, reflection and expression, verbatim and other reports and didactics.

A unit of CPE consists of at least 400 hours of structured group and individual education accompanied by supervised clinical practice of ministry spread over usually 12 weeks. It is now mandatory in many seminaries and is expected in most institutional professional ministerial employment settings. Typically several units of CPE are expected for professional chaplaincies. Some larger institutions offer stipended multiple unit residencies so that one can earn while learning.

This is an excellent path for retired *CORPUS* members who desire to get back into the game in their retirement from secular positions, etc. and utilize directly their pastoral gifts once again in formal settings. More information about CPE and its participating sites may be found at www.acpe.edu The Federation of Christian Ministries has recently been recognized as a Religious Endorsing Body resource for Roman Catholics who are unable to obtain endorsement from the Roman Catholic institutional authorities for one reason or another by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education.

On the **international scene** the North Atlantic Federation for a Renewed Catholic Priesthood Congress will have met in Vienna, Austria November 6–9 th to determine a path for the next few years. Up for grabs will be the mission, nature, and name of the North Atlantic Federation as this, as stated above, is a time of turbulence and change on a variety of fronts. I am one of four plenary speakers along with Leonard Swidler, Temple University Professor of Catholic Thought and Interreligious Dialogue; Editor of Ecumenical Studies. I will be offering a shared presentation with Bishop Christine Mayr-Lumetzberger, a Roman Catholic womanpriest from Austria, on the collaboration of married priests and women priests.

American organizations which will have voting delegates include: *CORPUS* (Anthony Padovano, William Manseau), the Women's Ordination Conference (Dagmar Celeste), FCM's Roman Catholic Faith Community Council (Michaelita and Thomas Quinn and John Raymaker) and the International Society of the Apostles, Sts. Peter, Thomas and Mary Magdalene (Christine Mayr-Lumetzberger and Peter Paul Brennan). They represent half of the organizations which have registered to attend to date. Dagmar Celeste will offer a workshop on WOC, Michaelita and Thomas Quinn, Peter Paul Brennan, John Raymaker and I will do a workshop on FCM ministries including Chaplaincy Endorsements and the St. Barnabas Mission communities, and John Raymaker will offer a workshop entitled "Steps Toward Vatican III, Catholics Pathfinding a Global Spirituality with Islam and Buddhism" based on the book authored by him and Gerald Grudzen. We Americans will have a strong presence. Let me hear from you on these and other things which are important to our *CORPUS* community.

Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas blessings to you and yours.

WRITTEN BY William Manseau corpus President

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Présentation de la Célébration

Conference Workshop, by The Community of John XXIII

The Community of John XXIII felt privileged and honored to conduct a workshop at the Joint Conference entitled **Inclusive Ministry and Renewal in a Complex Age**, so well organized by Michaelita and Thomas Quinn this past July in Boston. Our workshop explored **Religious Life Renewed: The Community of John XXIII**. The panel included Linda Pinto, our Moderator, Mary and Dick Scaine, our Facilitators, Robert Charpentier, former Vice-President of *CORPUS*, and Bishop Peter Hickman of the EEC Community.

Enthusiastic members of John XXIII **embraced** us with their **presence**: Theresa Padovano, Terry and Fred Quinn from New Jersey, David Gawlik from Wisconsin, Elaine and Francis McGillicuddy from Maine, Robert Charpentier from California and Allen and Sylvia Moore from Arizona. We focused on the essential **elements** of our community, **prayer**, **study**, and **reflection**. **Mary Scaine** began with a prayer from Bill Cleary's book *Prayers to an Evolutionary God*. This theme of **gratitude** was echoed in Matthew Fox's keynote address...[text of prayer]

Linda Pinto took advantage of the panoramic view of the city to highlight her **personal** enthusiasm about being in Boston. She asked all participants to stand and silently absorb the crystal, sterling view of the city while she intentionally read words, which attract her to a renewed religious life. These included: **creativity**, **confusion**, **chakra**, **cosmos**, **co-creation**, **complex**, and **community**. She noted that it was this spiritual expansiveness and vibrancy of thought that made the Community such an important part of her life.

Robert Charpentier outlined the history of this initiative. Originally rooted in conversations with several Lutheran and Episcopalian Bishops, the focus of the initiative was to provide credentials for Roman Catholic Married Priests. Over the course of ten years, the Community has evolved to its current status, as the "spiritual arm" of *CORPUS*.

Notices sur les auteurs :

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WRITTEN BY Richard & Mary Scaine

Richard Scaine taught at Seton Hall University and Prep School and New York Theological Seminary, from which he received a doctorate in 1977. He taught in the doctoral program at New York Theological for eighteen years, now retired. Dr. Scaine holds three master degrees: in Early Childhood Education, Psychology and Religion, and Theology. He received the Jungian Guild for Spiritual Guidance diploma in 1980 and is certified as an American Montessori Teacher. He was recently installed as a member of the pastoral team of the Inclusive Community in Nutley, N.J., a ministry he shares with his wife Mary. Dick & Mary's email address is mrscaine@comcast.net

Bishop Peter Hickman rounded out the workshop by highlighting the role of the Ecumenical Catholic Communion as partners with the Community. The ECC is the Old Catholic Church, with what Roman Catholics call valid orders and apostolicity. It is regarded by the World Council of Churches and the Vatican as a Church akin to the Orthodox or Polish National Churches, that is, a Church with a full sacramental life and a validly ordained episcopate and priesthood. Our partnership with the Communion brings an ever-more widening scope of spirituality and ecumenical intention. The focus was on the elements of the Community of John XXIII: **Prayer, Study, and Reflection: The New Story**, as presented by **Dick Scaine** in four parts:

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Reflections on Church Reform

By Anthony P. Kowalski and his wife, Joan P. Sullivan, have recently moved to Charlestown, the Erickson Retirement Community on the grounds of the former St.Charles Seminary in Catonsville MD
apkowalski@gmail.com

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Christianity's Missing Link

by Marian Greenwell lives in Wimberley, Texas, where she writes, feeds wildlife, facilitates studies in soul-making through Jungian studies, provides space for Centering Prayer, and offers a quiet, peaceful retreat for family and friends in her hill country home. She is the author of Bewitchment and Beyond; Transformation of the Catholic Experience; PublishAmerica; 2005.

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Leaving the Priesthood

by Robert Kippley

Robert and Joan Kippley and dog, Joey...

Robert is an ordained pastor in Colorado and celebrated his 25th anniversary of ordination this year.

Ordained in 1983 Transitioned in 1998

henry@leavingthepriesthood.com

www.leavingthepriesthood.com.

This web site has been created by Robert for priests considering leaving the Catholic Church to another faith community to continue their ministry.

Vienna - November 6 - 9, 2008

About two months ago we wrote you a letter saying that we have planned to organize an international Congress about Church ministry. This Congress will be held from November 6-9, 2008 in the Austrian capital Vienna. The title and topic of this Congress is:

A Future for God's People - Service Responding to Needs.

Announcing that congress we wrote: "It cannot be new for you when we say that today, in the Roman Catholic Church, there is a deep crisis as far as ministry is concerned. The bishops and other Church authorities admit the seriousness of the situation and try to make the tide turn. They take measures such as combining parishes and often closing of churches, cutting down the number of Eucharists, uniting several parishes under one priest. This is a top-down attitude, which does not take in account that times have fundamentally changed.

In the last century, the People of God, the faithful has come of age and utters its vision more and more. Think of the international movement *We Are Church*, think of the recently published and internationally distributed brochure of the Dutch Dominicans on *Church and Ministry*. From 'top-down' now a 'from the bottom-up' is preferred.

In our former letter we asked if, in principle, you would be interested in participating. If so, we promised to keep you informed. Since, we have had reactions from 18 countries, all over the world. Therefore, we now come and ask you if you already have made up your mind and, if you have decided to come and participate, we ask you now to register.

In sum, the program of those days is:

On Thursday 6th arrival.

On Friday 7th plenary sessions with keynote speakers

- **Leonard Swidler**, professor of Catholic Thought & Religious Dialogue at Temple University, Philadelphia USA, author of many books, recently about *Making the Church Our Own. How to Reform the Church from the Bottom Up* (Sheed & Ward 2007), and
- **Father André Lascaris** one of the four Dutch Dominicans who published (August 2007) a booklet about *Church and Ministry*, which attracted worldwide attention.

On Saturday 8th two keynote speakers too: a panel with

- **William Manseau** recently chosen President of the American association 'CORPUS- for an inclusive ministry,
- and Austrian former vicar-general **Helmut Schüller**.

On Sunday 9th concluding Eucharist and departure.

In addition to these main speeches, there are workshops, discussions, exchanges of experience in the field of ministry.