



During VOTF's **Spotlight on Spotlight** event in March 2016, Voice of the Faithful President Mark Mullaney, center, introduces Q&A panel members Walter Robinson, left, Editor at Large at The Boston Globe, and Mike Rezendes, Boston Globe Spotlight Team reporter. Robinson, as leader, and Rezendes, as reporter, were on the Spotlight Team during the investigation into clergy sexual abuse in the Archdiocese of Boston that won the paper the 2003 Pulitzer Prize in Public Service.



## Projects and Prospects in 2015-2016: A Voice of the Faithful® Scorecard

### Financial Working Group

- ✦ Provides online web listing of all U.S. dioceses' finances
- ✦ Work with parishes to obtain justice in parish fund thefts
- ✦ Brochures & guidelines available for parish collection security
- ✦ Principles for diocesan finance councils available on website
- ✦ Church structure primer available on website
- ✦ Monitored Canon Law Society's study of diocesan finance councils

### Ordination of Married Men/Optional Celibacy

- ✦ Action Plan model on website, with letter template and step-by-step model to contact local bishop
- ✦ New Pastoral Provision requested in letters to pope and key bishops
- ✦ Study guide on celibacy and a related reading list available
- ✦ Essay on flaws of mandatory celibacy available

### Bishop Selection

- ✦ Web portal available for national input on bishop selection needs
- ✦ Background papers for lay input into bishop selection available
- ✦ Proposed demonstration projects for lay input to pope and cardinals
- ✦ Completed bishop-selection models
- ✦ Bishop selection primer available

### Lay Education

- ✦ Study guides available online for origins of the Church, Gospel timeline, Vatican II, and more
- ✦ Renewal resources available

### Healing Circles

- ✦ Conduct Restorative Justice Healing Circles for survivors, families, and all others harmed by clergy sex abuse
- ✦ Working with groups in Ireland to hold Healing Circles there
- ✦ Initiating facilitator training for Healing Circles
- ✦ Working with institutional partners for training facilitators and hosting Healing Circles

### Women's Roles

- ✦ Women Deacons paper available for education/discussion series
- ✦ Bibliography available on women in the Church
- ✦ Affiliates in MA, RI, CT & NY hosted discussion sessions on Women's Roles
- ✦ Participated in online seminar with Phyllis Zagano on women deacons

### Cooperative Projects

- ✦ Work with other Catholic renewal organizations on projects of mutual interest
- ✦ Participated in NunJustice coalition
- ✦ Support cooperative efforts with a priests' association

### Clericalism

- ✦ Identified by VOTF in report on the John Jay study as a key factor in clergy sex abuse
- ✦ Presented colloquium on clericalism at 2016 priests' assembly
- ✦ Clerical culture description and historical background available
- ✦ Bibliography for further study available

### Survivor Support

- ✦ Guidelines for reforming statute of limitation laws available
- ✦ Fr. Doyle's *Clergy Sex Abuse Bibliography* available online
- ✦ Government/academic reports from past decade on website
- ✦ Lamentation Wall available as model on website
- ✦ Support SNAP and other survivor organizations

### Child Protection

- ✦ Developing database to monitor diocesan/parish observance of protection standards
- ✦ Promote awareness of child protection standards
- ✦ Monitor audits in U.S. and Ireland on diocesan adherence to child protection standards
- ✦ Affiliate activities advance child protection guidelines
- ✦ Ideas for promoting awareness of guidelines available online

### Prayerful Voice

- ✦ Options for devotional practices available online
- ✦ Models available online for lay-led days of renewal, prayer groups, prayer services, and retreats
- ✦ Periodic postings of spiritual reflections

### Meetings with Bishops

- ✦ Bridgeport (CT) affiliate and Bishop Caggiano
- ✦ VOTF-Ireland and Archbishop Diarmuid Martin
- ✦ Affiliates in Hartford (CT), Long Island (NY), and Providence (RI) with their bishops
- ✦ Affiliates in Chicago and Boston with sitting bishops
- ✦ Numerous "off-the-record" meetings

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