

August 19 In the Vineyard

News from National

Emily and Rosemary Fund

Last week, VOTF announced the establishment of The Emily and Rosemary Fund to support women who lose employment in the Roman Catholic Church as the result of injustice or discrimination, and to help women who are working to bring about justice and equality in the Church.

Initiated by Lynette Petruska, an attorney practicing in St. Louis MO, with a donation of \$75,000, the fund honors her grandmothers, Emily and Rosemary, two women whose devotion to their families and to the Church inspired Lynette.

Lynette established the Fund in response to the injustice and discrimination she experienced after opposing sexual harassment and other sexual misconduct at Gannon University in Erie PA, where she was appointed the first female chaplain in 1999:

"I was fortunate to have a profession to which I could return but many women serving the Church find themselves and their families at great risk when targeted by discriminatory practices or when they stand up to injustice. This is my way to help, at least in a small way."

Voice of the Faithful will administer the grants awarded under the Fund. The first round of applications opened August 10, 2010, and awards will be announced in late November 2010. If you are interested in contributing to the fund, please go to <http://votf.org/page/emily-rosemary-fund-women-church/14217>

National Responds to Vatican Resignation Rejection

August 13, 2010

The Vatican's refusal to accept the resignation of two Irish bishops dramatically highlights the failure of Pope Benedict to hold himself and the hierarchy of the Catholic Church accountable for their role in the sex abuse scandal.

Cardinal Bernard Law left Boston in disgrace, and was awarded a rich sinecure in Rome. Two Irish bishops judged themselves to be unworthy of continued service as bishops, and the Vatican now rejects their decision. Meanwhile, Bishop John McCormack of New Hampshire announced yesterday that he had submitted his letter of resignation to Rome not because he decided he was indeed guilty of abetting abuse while serving under Law in Boston, but because he had reached the mandatory retirement age of 75. As with many others who

covered up sins and crimes, Bishop McCormack should have been fired rather than awarded a position until his retirement.

The Vatican will never heal the wounds caused by this scandal until it shows that it is capable of holding the hierarchy accountable. Rejecting the Irish resignations without explanation displays a rank contempt, rather than a decent respect, for the opinion of the People of God, not to mention a watching world.

New Voice of the Faithful Brochure Available

Have you joined the effort "spread the word" this summer? You can order the new Voice of the Faithful brochure to share with your friends, neighbors and fellow parishioners. The brochure is a concise but thorough explanation of who VOTF is, what we do and what we are trying to accomplish. There is no time like now to introduce people to the work of Voice of the Faithful. You can order the new informational brochure or the 21st century disciple brochure online now!"

<https://interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/weblink.aspx?name=votf&id=3>

Members in the news

Carolyn Disco comments on Bishop McCormack's retirement

http://www.boston.com/news/local/new_hampshire/articles/2010/08/14/bishop_stepping_down_in_nh/

Site- Seeing

80 year old Irish woman organizing one day boycott of mass by "faithful women of Ireland" to let the Vatican and the Irish church know that "women are tired of being treated as second-class citizens".

<http://www.irishtimes.com/newspaper/frontpage/2010/0811/1224276549321.html>

Testimony of victims at a bankruptcy hearing involving a diocesan lawsuit. The outcome will determine whether the individual victim lawsuits will go forward or be stayed again. The testimony of victims is wrenching...

<http://www.delawareonline.com/article/20100813/NEWS01/8130338/-1/NLETTER01/Victims-testify-of-hurt--betrayal?source=nletter-news>

Vatican attempts to clarify difference between sex abuse of children and women priests...

http://uk.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE66E2C620100716?loomia_ow=t0:s0:a49:g43:r2:c0.285714:b36415822:z0

A theologian urges women religious to model authentic discipleship in the face of ecclesial conflict...

<http://ncronline.org/news/women-religious/women-religious-experiences-have-implications-entire-church>

Sister Joan Chittister urges women religious to remain strong...

<http://ncronline.org/news/women/wanted-women-spirit-our-own-time>

"Breakaway" Catholics celebrate mass in new space - could face sanctions...

http://blog.cleveland.com/metro/2010/08/bishop_richard_lennon_seeks_me.html

Calendar

LONG ISLAND VOTF REGIONAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, September 22, 2010 7:30 PM

Universalist Unitarian Congregation - Veatch House - Shelter Rock Road, Manhasset, NY "Male Sexual Abuse" presented by Dr. Richard Gartner
Dr. Gartner is the author of Beyond Betrayal: Taking Charge of Your Life after Boyhood Sexual Abuse and Betrayed as Boys: Psychodynamic Treatment of Sexually Abused Men. A Training Analyst at the William Alanson White Psychoanalytic Institute, he has been honored for his contributions to the psychotherapy treatment for victims of sexual abuse and also for his work with the the media to spread an understanding of the trauma this abuse causes. A Past President of MaleSurvivor: the National Organization against Male Sexual Victimization (malesurvivor.org), he is the organization's media spokesperson and has been interviewed in such diverse media as the New York Times, New York Newsday, the London Times, O! (Oprah's Magazine), the Paula Zahn Show, and the Early Show.

Presentation followed by question and answer session

*Directions to Veatch House:

The meeting will be at the Veatch House at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation.

After turning at the entrance into the grounds, drive up the hill toward the upper parking area.

Just before you can enter the upper parking area, watch for a sign for the Veatch House.

Turn right at the sign and follow the road down to the Veatch House.

General Directions:

Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 48 Shelter Rock Road, Manhasset, NY.
11030

From the East: *LIE westbound: Exit 36 - Seasingtown Rd. At 2nd. light on the service road turn RIGHT onto Shelter Rock Rd. Get in LEFT LANE. At white fence & lighted sign turn LEFT into "Unitarian Universalist Congregation" entrance road to parking lot. Enter hall through glass doors.

*Northern State westbound: Exit 27 N.-Shelter Rock Rd. RIGHT at Shelter Rock Rd. Proceed North, following directions above.

From the West * LIE: Exit Shelter Rock Rd. Turn LEFT at light - proceed as above.

* Northern State: Follow exit ramp onto Shelter Rock Rd. Proceed as above.

* Northern Boulevard: Shelter Rock Rd. ends at Northern Blvd.

EASTBOUND- turn RIGHT at intersection.

WESTBOUND- turn LEFT at intersection. Keep right. Pass Staples, Independence Bank, Shelter Rock site, entrance to Whitney Estate. At white fence & lighted sign reading, "Unitarian Universalist Congregation", turn RIGHT. Follow directions above to parking lot and conference hall.

Book Review

By Gaile M. Pohlhaus, Ph.D.

Phyllis Tickle. *The Great Emergence: How Christianity Is Changing and Why.* Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books (2008.) 165 pp. Index. Diagrams.

Tickle does for Christianity what Thomas Kuhn did for science in *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*. She makes a convincing argument that religions change approximately every 500 years. Certainly there is a period leading up to the change and a period leading down. She draws her schema going from the Great Reformation to the Great Schism (Eastern and Western split) to Gregory the Great to Jesus. Then she shows what has been forming the Great Emergence for the past 500 years.

This is another book I wish I had seen in time to order for my students this semester. The text is both clear and interesting. The steps are both logical and imaginative. The book is available through Amazon.com both in hard cover and a Kindle edition.

Holiday shopping yet? If you are, please begin your shopping by accessing the Amazon link on our website. VOTF will get a portion of whatever you buy! (If you are not shopping yet, you're in good company!)