



# LAY WITNESS

2 February 2018

Presentation of Our Lord

Vol. 36, No. 1

*to unite the faithful from all walks of life in order to  
support, defend and advance the efforts of the teaching Church*

## From the President

Dear Friends,

“Grace to you, and peace from Him Who is, Who was, and Who is to come” (Rev. 1:4).

In a letter dated 19 March 2017, I explained that Catholics United for the Faith (CUF) had affiliated to The Saint Joseph Foundation (SJF), and I gave a very brief explanation of what that meant. I also promised to re-publish *Lay Witness*. My goal was to publish it by June 2017. I was outdone by the problems in the transition, and my father took his final illness and died in June 2017. I regret the delays, but I am pleased now to introduce *Lay Witness* again. And, for those of you who do not know me, let me introduce myself.

A native of Texas, I am the sixth of twelve children. My wife, Emily, and I home schooled our six children; three are still at home with only one left to get through middle and high school. From a young age, I have thirsted to read and pray Sacred Scripture. The Word of God plays a significant role in my life.

I spent four years at a college preparatory boarding school run by the Benedictine monks of New Subiaco Abbey, Subiaco, Arkansas. While there, a seed was planted for me to pursue studies in Canon Law, though I could never have imagined where that would take me. I completed my undergraduate studies in Theology and Mental Health/Human

Services at Franciscan University of Steubenville. After some work in the mental health field (I met my wife at a mental hospital—you can quote me on that), I completed my licentiate in Canon Law at St. Paul University in Ottawa, Canada.

I worked a couple of years for the Diocese of Little Rock immediately after completing my studies in canon law. That experience shaped my future work in ways that still amaze me. Following a brief period of unemployment, during which I built and remodeled houses, my father-in-law became ill and my wife and I decided to move back to Ohio. We chose the Steubenville area to be our home, and we moved in August 1997. In January 1998, I became the Director of Information Services for Catholics United for the Faith (CUF). Yes, this is my second time around, and my experiences at CUF the first time around were of immense formation for me, both for what I would do immediately after leaving CUF and now that I am President. I also began teaching as an adjunct faculty member at Franciscan University; a position I maintain today.

While at CUF, I first had the task of developing Information Services. During my tenure as Director of that program from January 1998 until September 2001, my staff more than doubled. At the time of my departure, Information Services had five

## **Prayer of Catholics United for the Faith**

O God our Father, who sent Your only-begotten Son to suffer and to give His life for the life of His Church, rule, protect, and nourish her continually, we beseech You. Teach us of Catholics United for the Faith to direct our zeal first of all to the renewal of our own hearts. Then, if it be Your holy will to allow us to be in any way Your instruments in the wider renewal of Your Church, give us the grace to know what services, small or great, You ask of us, and let the Holy Spirit teach us to perform them in obedience, patience, and charity, leaving entirely to You what fruits they may bear. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of that Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **AMEN.**

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus,  
have mercy on us.  
Holy Mary, Mother of the Church,  
intercede for us.  
St. Joseph, Head of the Holy Family  
and Patron of the Universal Church,  
pray for us.

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full-time staff with two to three student interns. Our toll-free hotline (for those who remember, it was 1-800-MY FAITH) grew from answering a hundred or so questions each month to an average of 800 questions each month. By the time I left the program, we had answered almost 20,000 specific questions with about 9000 general points of research compiled. At that time, my colleague and the corresponding director of a similar program for another apostolate would call me periodically to get updates on our research. Of course, we were happy to share our information. It's the mission of CUF. Undoubtedly, at that time, the Information Services of CUF was the English-speaking world's premier question and answer forum on matters of the Catholic Faith.

In September 2000, I would be elected as Vice President of CUF. In addition to my previous duties, I would become Director of Development and Director of Membership Services. The later position included coordination of chapter development, and I would begin traveling North America to visit our chapters. Some of you may remember me. I visited chapters in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Arizona. In addition, I would meet with groups of our members anytime I travelled for any reason (I did a lot of conferences those days), and was hosted in parish halls and family rooms from Florida to Alaska.

As Director of Development, I pursued several initiatives to increase membership. During my brief tenure of nine months in that position, our membership increased more than 10%, and peaked at around 10,500.

After I left CUF, I opened a full-time, private practice in Canon Law, Professional Canonical Services ([www.catholicanonlaw.com](http://www.catholicanonlaw.com)). I had always had a part-time private practice, but necessity and opportunity met in January 2002. Though there are many full time, private practices of Canon Law in Italy, and perhaps other places as well, mine was only the second in North America at that time. In January 2014, I was elected President of The Saint Joseph Foundation (SJF), and began winding down my private practice. By 2015, I was serving full-time as President of SJF. In March 2015, all the full-time staff of SJF either retired or left, and I moved the apostolic office to our property in Hopedale, Ohio. My wife and I were given a farm with a very large farmhouse; large enough to accommodate SJF's library and staff. It is also large enough to accommodate CUF.

I see this as God's design. By moving SJF to Hopedale, and not moving my family to San Antonio, God put me in a position to provide a stable infrastructure for both SJF and CUF. As noted in my March 19<sup>th</sup> letter, what CUF lacked in infrastructure, SJF was able to supply, even an extensive research library. And, by sharing resources, both apostolates have a much brighter future.

I will not speak of what happened to CUF between

2002 and 2017. For the most part, I do not know details. I do know that when CUF affiliated to SJF on 4 February 2017, it had no infrastructure. There was no permanent office, it owned only one computer and no monitor, its research library was gone, much of its research documents were also gone, and it had no staff.

Sounds bleak, but CUF still had its two greatest assets; its mission and its loyal members.

I knew that. I am one of those members. Like many of you, I often wondered what was happening to CUF, and why it was not pursuing the greatness of its mission as it had in the past. When I learned that plans for CUF's dissolution were being considered, even pursued, I had to act! I know its mission is as important today as it was in 1968. And, I know that God is not finished with CUF yet. My wife, my staff, and my good friend, Chuck Wilson, can attest that I spent hundreds of hours working on the affiliation. In my communications to the CUF Board of Directors at that time, I specifically pointed out that the greatest assets of CUF still existed, and only needed attention to let the apostolate flower and grow again.

I am grateful and humbled to be the President of CUF and your servant in our common mission "*to unite the faithful from all walks of life in order to support, defend, and advance the efforts of the teaching Church*" (CUF Bylaws, 1968).

In the lead article of this newsletter, I lay out my vision for the future of CUF. Because CUF is primarily a membership organization, a lay association of the faithful, you are CUF. The members make CUF, and the Chapters are essential in its continued existence and development. It is my hope and prayer that you will share my belief that God is not finished with CUF yet, and share my resolve to pursue the mission of CUF in a new and fresh way to meet the challenges of our generation.

Please, do not be strangers. Our International Office and staff are here for you. And, I welcome the chance to come to your parish, to a regional gathering, or even to a small gathering in someone's home, so we can unite our efforts in this great mission.

In the future, my letters will be shorter, and the content of *Lay Witness* more varied. The lead article explains this. For now, I appreciate your patience with this long missive, and I close with the words from the Prophet Ezekiel; words that have haunted my prayer for a long time.

*And my sheep were scattered, because there was no shepherd: and they became the prey of all the beasts of the field, and were scattered (Ez. 34:5, DRV).*

By these words, I will work to shape the mission of CUF, "*to unite the faithful.*"

God bless you all; St. Joseph keep you!

Peace,

Philip C. L. Gray

# Gathering the Sheep

By: Philip C. L. Gray

*And seeing the multitudes, he had compassion on them: because they were distressed, and lying like sheep that have no shepherd. Then he saith to his disciples, The harvest indeed is great, but the labourers are few. Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he send forth labourers into his harvest (Mt. 9:36-38, DRV).*

I have made common in my recent writings this theme of “sheep without a shepherd”. I am not alone. Those who reflect on the Sacred Scriptures find how common a theme it has been for millennia.

The theme is expressly found in the Old Testament over 200 times, and implicitly found many times more. Virtually every book of the Old Testament carries a statement similar to the words of Jesus quoted above. Consider these two:

*And he will tell me when he will repay them for their sins, and I will come and tell thee, so that I may bring thee through the midst of Jerusalem, and thou shalt have all the people of Israel, as sheep that have no shepherd, and there shall not so much as one dog bark against thee (Judith 11:15, DRV).*

*And my sheep were scattered, because there was no shepherd: and they became the prey of all the beasts of the field, and were scattered (Ez. 34:5, DRV).*

In the first quote from the Book of Judith, Judith speaks these words to Holofernes, the General of the Assyrian army. She has gone to him with the intent to deceive him, kill him, and rescue her people from his grip. These words are part of a deception, but they reflect a reality that would have taken place if Holofernes were successful. Though Israel had leaders at the time, and there were leaders in Judith’s village of Bethulia, those leaders were not acting with confidence in God or moved with a strict desire for justice. The people were sheep without shepherds, and Judith used the theme to encourage Holofernes to trust her. It would cost him his head, and Judith would save her people from destruction.

In the second passage, the Prophet Ezekiel is speaking to the leaders of Israel. Now, keep in mind, Ezekiel is a priest who was led into exile, probably at the same time that King Joachin was led away (cf. 2 Kings 24). Ezekiel had visions of what was happening in Jerusalem at the time. He was

taken in spirit and saw priests and princes worshiping idols in the Temple rooms. They would stand before the people and proclaim God as Lord, but in their private chambers, they would worship idols and plan the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple. In this context, Ezekiel spoke this prophesy against the priests and princes of Israel:

*And the word of the Lord came to me, saying:*

*Son of man, prophesy concerning the shepherds of Israel: prophesy, and say to the shepherds: Thus saith the Lord God: Woe to the shepherds of Israel, that fed themselves: should not the flocks be fed by the shepherds? You ate the milk, and you clothed yourselves with the wool, and you killed that which was fat: but my flock you did not feed. The weak you have not strengthened, and that which was sick you*



Good Shepherd, Plockhorst





*The return of Judith to Bethulia, Botticelli*

*have not healed, that which was broken you have not bound up, and that which was driven away you have not brought again, neither have you sought that which was lost: but you ruled over them with rigour, and with a high hand.*

We see that in both contexts, the Book of Judith and the Book of Ezekiel, the leaders of the people were not leading in truth and justice with full confidence

in God. If we examine the other sources of this theme, we find very similar contexts.

Given that the Old Testament alone constituted Sacred Scripture in Jesus' day, it is not surprising that He quotes it frequently. It is also not surprising that we find the theme of "sheep without a shepherd" more than 30 times in the Gospels. Proportionately, the theme occurs more frequently in the Gospels than it does in the Old Testament.

Like the prophets of the Old Testament, Jesus recognized that the religious leaders of His day were not interested in truth, justice, or displaying confidence in God. Rather, they displayed a confidence in human social structures and political manipulations. Words were often nuanced to allow broader or stricter meanings, whatever would be convenient for the one speaking. It wasn't about being faithful to God's Word; it was about pushing an agenda that would benefit the one in authority. I will not quote them here, but *Lay Witness* readers should be quite familiar with the strong words Jesus often used against the religious leaders of His day, often with the express intent of exposing their self-serving attitudes.

## Cultural Context Today

It doesn't take a special degree for one to notice that our world is in sad shape. I could quote from any number of Church documents issued in my lifetime that lament the significant evils at work in our culture and world. That's not necessary. One only needs to read the news, and a legion of examples exists to demonstrate evil at work. Realistically speaking, we cannot expect anything different. Man's concupiscence coupled with his intelligent advancements only means that new and interesting ways to exploit others will develop until the end of time. While this is a reality we all encounter in one way or another, what is of greater concern is that the culture within the Church is not much different than that of the World. In my own experience and opinion, I believe the World is influencing men in the Church more than men in the Church are influencing the

World. I illustrate my point with some rhetorical questions: Is Mass attendance rising or falling in North America? What is the retention rate of converts to the Catholic Faith? Overall, is there a decline or increase in vocation in North America? How many people really care?

In contrast, faithful Catholics who read the news have found stories about drunken orgies in the Vatican; prominent priests and bishops who have paramours and illegitimate children; controversy with the Vatican bank; fears of changes to Catholic doctrine; and I have not mentioned the exploitation of children. Based on my own experiences, these issues are only the tip of the iceberg. The hidden mass that keeps breaking holes in the Bark of Peter is a lack of virtue in Church affairs. The Gospel message is often replaced with words that are politically correct, desensitize the faithful to what is good and beautiful, and whitewash issues affecting the Church and her faithful. For example, in most of the canonical cases affecting parishes I have been part of over the past twenty years, decisions focus on money well ahead of the spiritual needs of the faithful.

The results are not surprising. People leave the Church because of the negligence of pastors to foster the true faith; others leave because of the harm done to people in parishes (closing of churches, schools, etc.). In America, too many bishops lament a lack of priests without implementing strategies that attract vocations. Rather, they plan for failure and close parishes. Neat theological statements are contrived to explain away the harmful realities being created. Too often, protecting the respect due the office of a priest or bishop is of greater importance than the fulfillment of their ministry. Many who stay in the Church live in fear of what may come next.

As said by Our Lord, "*From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and men of violence take it by force*" (Mt. 11:12; RSVCE). Make no mistake, we are living in the "now", and the Kingdom of Heaven continues to suffer violence at the hands of violent men.

Praise be Jesus Christ, for He has conquered! We must be faithful and patient. As is written in Psalm 93(94):

Happy the man whom you teach, O Lord,  
whom you train by means of your law;  
to him you give peace in evil days  
while the pit is being dug for the wicked.  
The Lord will not abandon his people  
nor forsake those who are His own;  
for judgment shall again be just  
and all true hearts shall uphold it (v12-15).

Though usually not mentioned in the news, all of us either know or know of laity, priests and bishops who do live lives of virtue and faithfully proclaim the Gospel. Salt

of the Earth does not make great news in our society today, but it does get God's attention; and it should get ours too.

## The Mission of Catholics United for the Faith

Within a context very similar to our culture today, CUF was founded in 1968. In the early 1960's, there were many who believed the weight of the institutional Church was stifling the Holy Spirit's work. There is truth in that belief, though exploring it is beyond the limits of this article. It did lead Pope St. John XXIII to convene Vatican Council II. In 1968, the pendulum had swung the other way, and there were many who believed the baby was thrown out with the bath water as Vatican II was implemented. There is truth in that belief as well; truth enough that lay Catholic leaders in North America worked with and encouraged H. Lyman Stebbins to found Catholics United for the Faith (CUF).

Stebbins, and those associated with him, founded CUF with the express intent *"to unite the faithful from all walks of life in order to support, defend, and advance the efforts of the teaching Church"* (CUF Bylaws, 1968). Most *Lay Witness* readers and CUF members recognize the second half of that mission, *"to support, defend, and advance the efforts of the teaching Church"*. Somewhere along the way, the first half seems to have been forgotten. Yet, it is this first half of the mission that gives substance to the second half. And, it is this first half of the CUF Mission that expresses a main theme of Sacred Scripture, to unite the faithful in the Truth of Jesus Christ. That is CUF's true mission, and it is the mission I will pursue as President. Let's take a look at what that means.

*"To unite the faithful..."*

There are three visible Bonds of Unity in the Catholic Church. These bonds are: 1. Profession of Faith; 2. Divine Worship; and, 3. Obedience to the Magisterium. Uniting the faithful requires CUF to present Catholic doctrine simply and clearly, without attachment to political correctness or particular personalities;

to encourage its members to participate fully in the sacramental life of the Church; and to remain steadfast in obedience to those Our Lord has placed in authority.

Each of these Bonds of Unity have been exploited by many in the Church, both lay and cleric. They have become politicized and used for personal gain. In many places and circumstances, they have been used as an end in

themselves. It is CUF's mission to cut through the many veils that obscure a true understanding of these great opportunities for grace, and encourage an understanding that is pure and consistent with the orthodoxy of the Teaching Church.

*"...from all walks of life..."*

There are 24 (or more) Churches that are united to form the Catholic Church. Different people know these Churches as "ritual churches", "Churches *sui iuris*", or some similar term. Within these Churches, there is a diversity of rituals and expressions of the One True Faith. All believe the same things (First Bond of Unity); all worship the same God (Second Bond of Unity); all are ruled by bishops who possess Apostolic authority (Third Bond of Unity). Yet, there is significant diversity in how they believe, how they worship, and how they are organized. The diversity comes in the "how", not the "what". In this great experience we call the Catholic Church, a principle of the Natural Law is at work: Diversity strengthens unity; conformity breeds contempt.

Because CUF's Mission is *"to unite,"* by necessity CUF must recognize the legitimate diversity that is expressed both in culture and in faith experience. Stated another way, the term, *"from all walks of life"* does not only signify the diversity of vocation, but also the diversity of culture and experience.

*"...in order to..."*

CUF unites the faithful so they can pursue the second half of the Mission.

Unfortunately, in many presentations of the CUF Mission over the years, the first half was omitted. Yet, from the beginning, gathering the faithful under a common banner of Faith is what motivated the Founders and early members.

*"...to support, defend, and advance the efforts of the teaching Church."*

Apostolic activities of CUF members must support the efforts of the Teaching Church; defend the efforts of the Teaching Church, and advance the efforts of the Teaching Church. This begins first by our own personal sanctification. It involves our recognition that we possess the Holy Spirit by virtue of Baptism and Confirmation. We are baptized in the Power of God. If we have faith in that Power, we will cast mountains into the sea (Mt. 21:21).

At a practical level, our efforts will focus on supporting those good priests, those good bishops, and uniting ourselves with those good laity who are living virtuous lives. In our own pursuit of virtue, and by uniting our efforts to theirs, our salt will not lose its flavor.



*The Prophet Ezekiel,*  
Peter Paul Rubens

## Moving Forward

To pursue this great mission, CUF must develop its membership. CUF is a member organization. We are an association of the faithful. That is, members associate together to pursue a common mission congruent with the Mission of the Church. Being a member should present a distinction from not being a member. CUF was never intended to be a publishing house, and its members were never intended merely to be subscribers to a magazine. Rather, it was intended to be a grass root, lay association of the faithful whose members pursued apostolic activities in keeping with their Baptism.

In the coming months, I will be developing an identity for CUF membership based on the original, founding documents of CUF. I will work with our Board of Directors and active members, particularly through the various CUF Chapters, to develop a cohesive identity. When completed, I will present that identity to the current membership. I promise you this, membership will not be identified primarily by how much you donate or whether you subscribe to *Lay Witness*. Membership will bear a distinction that will represent our Mission and apostolic works. That is how it was in 1968; that is how it will be in 2018.

Intrinsic to CUF membership are the CUF Chapters. For too long, the Chapters have been neglected. They often became indistinguishable from a parish Bible study or prayer group. While Bible studies and prayer groups are good things (they formed an important part of my life), the movement to unite ourselves in apostolic action that supports, defends and advances the teaching Church was often neglected. This was not the case in the early years, and it is not the case of our remaining Chapters today. Over the years, the CUF Chapters have played a significant role in the North American Church. For example, the Denver Chapter made significant contributions to the development of the first post-conciliar catechetical directory for the United States, "Sharing the Light of Faith". The Milwaukee Chapter has always, and continues to, evaluate local and national catechetical materials for orthodoxy and pedagogy. Other Chapters have their own history and story with significant contributions locally, regionally, or even nationally.

The International Office's extreme neglect in the area of new chapter formation as well as its inattention to existing chapters led to a significant decline in CUF Chapters. When I left CUF in 2001, there were over 40 chartered Chapters across the country and in New Zealand. I believe we had one or two in other countries as well, but cannot verify that. Today, we have only six chartered Chapters in the United States and three in New Zealand. CUF will again empower the Chapters to be a significant influence in the Church. We are working on updating the Chapter

resource manual and will encourage both the formation of new Chapters and the development of existing Chapters. I intend to visit each of our Chapters in the coming year, no matter how large or small the Chapter. They represent the essence of CUF, and encouraging their work is a primary focus of our office.

Formation of the lay faithful has always been a focal point of CUF activity. Two critical ways we pursue this focal point is through Information Services and the *Faith and Life* catechetical series. In the mid 1990's, then CUF President Curtis Martin developed Information Services. He is the one who hired me to run it. He once told me, and I believe he was absolutely right, that Information Services represents the most fundamental outreach of the International Office. It represents what H. Lyman Stebbins and his office staff did every day: develop answers and resources to help people in their immediate faith formation and needs.

I have hired a research specialist to research answers to questions about the Catholic Faith. In the near future, I hope to reinstate the 1-800-MY FAITH number and develop a need for additional research specialists. For now, if you have any question about the Faith, call 740-283-2484 and ask your question. We have access to the 9000 general research points in our database, and we have over 200 FAITH FACTS. If we haven't researched your particular question, we will.

CUF is the author of the celebrated *Faith and Life* catechetical program. We are in the process of developing a Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten program to add to the First through Eighth Grade curricula. It is my intention to continue working with Ignatius Press and My Catholic Faith Delivered to offer textbook and online catechetical programs.

CUF has limited Spanish resources. Our First Grade through Eighth Grade *Faith and Life* student books are available in Spanish. I would like to see all our *Faith and Life* resources available in Spanish, both printed and on-line. Currently, we have engaged translators to expand our list of FAITH FACTS in Spanish.

CUF will continue to publish *Lay Witness*, but not as a full color magazine. It was originally a newsletter for members. It was intended to connect members with the International Office, provide helpful information about the Catholic Faith and issues associated with the Faith, and be a formation tool. We will return to an eight-page newsletter format. In the future, *Lay Witness* will always contain the following: a letter from me or from one of our Directors; a lead article three to four pages in length (this may be a FAITH FACT or some other writing that addresses a matter of Faith or current issue); a column titled "CUF Links" that will provide a Chapter update, an update from Information Services, an update from our sister apostolate The



St. Joseph Foundation, and a bulletin board for likeminded apostolates to publicize their events (we call it, “Yakin’ About). As space permits, we will also have a puzzle, quiz, or word search focused on articles of our Catholic Faith. We may add other items as well. In this way, *Lay Witness* will inform members about the activities of the CUF International office, its Chapters, and offer pertinent formation material on current issues. In 2018, we will publish *Lay Witness* at least quarterly. We may add a fifth issue if our development efforts blossom sooner than we expect. In 2019, we will begin publishing it every other month.

Our next issue of *Lay Witness*, to be published in April 2018, will focus on membership in CUF and our identity as those baptized in the Blood of Jesus Christ. We can pursue the mission of CUF only within that identity. And, within that identity, we will identify our membership.

A goal of CUF’s founder that was never realized was to develop a lay leadership program. Once we get membership defined and our Chapter program properly in place, I intend to begin developing that program. In the meantime, part of “uniting the faithful” is uniting the leadership. There are many worthy Catholic apostolates that are pursuing apostolic activities that should be supported. CUF is not in competition with them; rather, CUF should be supporting them. CUF members should be engaged through other apostolates. I would like to develop active ways in which CUF can interact and support the activities of other, like-minded and worthy apostolates.

Finally, CUF will turn 50 this year. Yes, this is our Golden Anniversary. I am planning a CUF Conference over the weekend of October 5-7, 2018, and hope to use that conference as an opportunity “to unite the faithful from all walks of life in order to support, defend, and advance the efforts of the teaching Church.” The conference

will take place on the grounds of the Apostolate for Family Consecration, located only fifteen minutes from the CUF International Office. Lodging will be available on-site. I will present more information on this significant event in the near future. Please mark your calendars. I hope to see you there.

## What can you do?

Catholics United for the Faith is a lay association of the faithful whose members constitute its greatest resource. Here in our offices, we provide resources to help you be formed in the Catholic Faith and pursue apostolic activities in keeping with your Baptism. We are here for you, but you are here for Christ and His Church; to be the Salt of the Earth and convert the world from within. We want you to succeed. You can help us help you by doing a few things. First, pray for the success of CUF. If God does not build the house, they labor in vain who build it (Psalm 127:1). Pray that we, and all CUF members, conform our efforts to the Will of God. Second, encourage engagement with us. I am happy to visit a Chapter, or even just a group of members who are not formed as a Chapter. I have given talks on a variety of topics, and I would be happy to come visit and encourage you in your Faith. Another means of engagement would be to call Information Services and use our FAITH FACTS in personal formation and apostolic outreach. Our materials make a great starting point to engage family, friends, or visitors on matters of the Faith. If you are not sure what we have, call and ask. We will gladly send a list of our FAITH FACTS. Finally, I urge you to seek the Kingdom of God within you. Men of violence are taking the Kingdom of God by force (c.f. Mt. 11:12), one soul at a time. Don’t be a casualty. Join me in this Golden Anniversary of Catholics United for the Faith, as we gather the sheep into the fold of the One True Shepherd, Jesus Christ.

## Available Faith Facts:

Here are just some of the FAITH FACTS we have available through Information Services. Look to the next issue for titles concerning Liturgy, the Sacraments, Scripture and more!

### Apologetics:

All in the Family:

The Communion of Saints

Blessed Be God, The Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Chosen in Him: The Catholic Teaching on Predestination

Christ’s Descent into “Hell”

Give It a Rest: Sunday is the Lord’s Day

God or Goddess? Our Heavenly Father Knows Best

Going God’s Way: Moral Conscience

Gregory the Great and Papal Primacy

Honor Thy Mother: Praising Mary and the Saints is Biblically Correct

If I For Get You, O Jerusalem: The Truth About the Crusades

Is Christmas a Pagan Feast?

It Works for Me: The Church’s Teaching on Justification

Jehovah’s Witnesses and the Holy Spirit

Life in the Fast Lane:

Why Catholics Abstain

Mary, Conceived Without Sin:

The Immaculate Conception

Mary’s Perpetual Virginity

No Bull: Papal Authority and Our Response

Persevering to the End: The Biblical Reality of Mortal Sin

Pillar and Bulwark of the Truth:

The Infallible Magisterium of the Catholic Church

Predestination and Free Will

# CUF LINKS

## Chapter News

CUF has six active chapters in the United States, and three active Chapters in New Zealand. If you are part of an active Chapter not listed below, please contact us so we can give proper recognition and assistance. If you are not involved in a Chapter, please consider joining a Chapter near you or starting your own. Our office can help put you in touch with a local Chapter, or with CUF members in your area who may be willing to start a Chapter with you. Call 740-283-2484 and ask for Therese. If your Chapter publishes a newsletter or email update, please put us on your list. We will gladly advertise your events in *Lay Witness*.

Here is a list of our active Chapters.

- *St. Michael Chapter, Green County, OH*
- *St. John Neumann Chapter, Philadelphia, PA*: Sponsoring a conference titled: Matrimony: Rediscovering its Truth; April 21<sup>st</sup> at The Cathedral Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul in Philadelphia, with Raymond Cardinal Burke. For additional information call 215-247-2585 or visit [stjohnneumannchapter.org](http://stjohnneumannchapter.org).

- *St. Gregory the Great Chapter, Milwaukee, WI*: Sponsoring a day of recollection on February 18<sup>th</sup>. For more information, contact Al Szews at [cufmil@wi.rr.com](mailto:cufmil@wi.rr.com) or 414-321-9377.
- *Our Lady of Peace Chapter, Newark, DE*
- *St. Catherine of Siena Chapter, Anchorage, AK*: Working on a speaker series, so check back for details!
- *Abba Father Chapter, Indianapolis, IN*

Philip Gray will be visiting our three New Zealand Chapters later this year. They are:

- *HolyFamily Chapter, Central Auckland*
- *Our Lady of Fatima Chapter, North Shore Auckland*
- *Our Lady Help for Christians Chapter, West Auckland*

CUF has a number of members in outlying islands of New Zealand who are not affiliated with a Chapter at this time. We are grateful for their constancy of Faith in their difficult situations.

## Information Services

Brian Richards joined CUF on January 2<sup>nd</sup> as a research librarian to organize our resources, and as an information research specialist to answer questions about the Catholic Faith. Therese Sanchez, the Administrative Assistant to Philip Gray, has been working with Brian to reformat and organize our FAITH FACTS. We have over 200 available. If you have a question, or would like a list of FAITH FACTS, call 740-283-2484 and ask for Brian. A partial list of available FAITH FACTS is found in this newsletter.

## St. Joseph Foundation Update

The St. Joseph Foundation posted growth in number of inquiries for assistance and cases handled for the third year in a row. If you would like to receive SJF's newsletter, *Christifidelis*, please call 740-937-2054. SJF is in need of an in-house canon lawyer, and is taking applications for this full-time position.

## Yakin' About

Got an announcement? If your event is CUF friendly and like-minded to our mission, and we have space to spare, we will gladly post it here. Just call 740-283-2484 and ask for Therese.