



# Stay Connected

AN ONLINE NEWSLETTER FOR THE WORLDWIDE TEC FAMILY

February 2013



Benedict XVI waves after celebrating Ash Wednesday Mass (Photo: CNS)

## EXCERPT OF THE POPE'S ASH WEDNESDAY HOMILY

By Pope Benedict XVI on Thursday, 14 February 2013

<http://www.catholicherald.co.uk/news/2013/02/14/full-text-of-the-popes-ash-wednesday-homily/>

In the Gospel passage according to Matthew, to whom belongs to the so-called Sermon on the Mount, Jesus refers to three fundamental practices required by the Mosaic Law: almsgiving, prayer and fasting. These are also traditional indications on the Lenten journey to respond to the invitation to return to God with all your heart." But he points out that both the quality and the truth of our relationship with God is what qualifies the authenticity of every religious act. For this reason he denounces religious hypocrisy, a behavior that seeks applause and approval. The true disciple does not serve himself or the "public", but his Lord, in simplicity and generosity: "And your Father who sees everything in secret will reward you" (Mt 6,4.6.18). Our fitness will always be more effective the less we seek our own glory and the more we are aware that the reward of the righteous is God Himself, to be united to Him, here, on a journey of faith, and at the end of life, in the peace light of coming face to face with Him forever (cf. 1 Cor 13:12).

Dear brothers and sisters, we begin our Lenten journey with trust and joy. May the invitation to conversion, to "return to God with all our heart", resonate strongly in us, accepting His grace that makes us new men and women, with the surprising news that is participating in the very life of Jesus. May the Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church and model of every true disciple of the Lord accompany us in this time. Amen!

## TEC Conference Staff is Growing

Billy and part time administrative assistant, Laurie Neely have welcomed to the staff Coty Engler and Laura Thomas who will be filling in the extra gaps for TEC Conference communications tasks by working hourly.



## Lenten Appeal

Please include the TEC Conference in your almsgiving this Lent. The TEC Conference Lenten Appeal was mailed out on February 25, 2013 to certain members of our database. If you do not receive one and would like to participate, please call or email us at the conference. We are all called to stewardship.

## TEC Leadership Council



The council is meeting on March 1st - 2nd for its bi-annual meeting. Please keep them in prayer as they dialogue on important issues which will affect TEC communities everywhere. The council needs feedback from TEC communities regarding a number of topics, including: the stewardship fee, the structure of the TEC leadership council, and finding new members for ministry teams. Please make sure that your TEC community's voice is heard at this important gathering. Thank you in advance for your prayers and participation.

## TEC Brochures

The Communications Ministry Team of the TEC Conference has created several tri-fold flyers with the help of one of its members, S. Joyelle Proot, SSND. Click the "Publications" link on the TEC website and you'll see downloadable flyers that target bishops, priests, deacons, vocations directors, diocesan youth – young adult directors, campus ministers, and young adults. They have pictures, quotes, and explanations.

You can print them, attach them to emails or simply send a link to the page! If you would like S. Joyelle to customize one of them for your local TEC Community, she can do so for a reasonable hourly fee. Contact her at:

[jproot@ssndcp.org](mailto:jproot@ssndcp.org)

## Spotlight Community

We spotlight different TEC communities in each Communicator. The next issue will be the Spring which will come out in April. Will your community be next? Has attending a TEC Conference workshop or Congress renewed your center? Is there a strong follow-through program happening locally? Please share this information for the good of the greater TEC family by contacting us at:

504.227.3233

[office@TECConference.org](mailto:office@TECConference.org).

## TEC Prayer Emails Resuming

The weekly TEC prayer emails will be resuming. Every week the TEC Conference sends out prayer intentions including the dates and locations of upcoming TEC weekends and special intentions from around the TEC world. If you would like to receive these emails and/or to submit a prayer intention to include please let us know by contacting us.



## Prayer for TEC Congress

As we prepare for the Congress, the planning team in Wichita asks that we offer this prayer with them:

*My Lord, my king and my God, in Your great glory, You sent Your only Son to die for us. Today, You give us the opportunity to die and rise with Christ in the Paschal Mystery. As we acknowledge our need for you, we thank you for your unfathomable mercy and all the blessings you bestow on us, especially in and through TEC.*

*As we prepare for this Congress, we offer it to you. Take it and make it yours. Fill the planning process and the Congress itself with grace and love. Gather us all together and teach us to listen to you with open hearts as we follow the words of our Mother Mary, "Do whatever He tells you." Continue to bless all who participate in the TEC retreats, and all the members of their families. Help us to know your unconditional love for us and guide us to share this love with others.*

## Register and Publicize

Help us to publicize the 2013 TEC Congress. Download the registration brochure and the official flyer at [www.tecconference.org](http://www.tecconference.org).

In an effort to attract more young adults to the event there is a greatly reduced registration price of \$85 for participants between the ages of 18 and 28. This covers all food, lodging and program cost for the entire weekend.

## TEC Conference Partners in Ministry

These religious communities have joined our **Partners in Ministry** program and offer continual prayer support for the TEC Movement. Please contact us to have your religious community featured here and on the TEC Conference.



### Sisters of Bon Secours

**Contact:** Sr. Pat Dowling, CBS - 1525 Marriottsville Rd. Marriottsville, Md. 21104 - **Phone:** (877) 742-0277  
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### Sisters of St. Benedict

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### St. Mary Monastery

**Contact:** Sr. Bobbi Bussan, OSB—Vocation Director 2200 88th Ave. W., Rock Island, IL 61021  
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**Web site:** [www.smmsisters.org](http://www.smmsisters.org)



### Redemptoristine Nuns

For more information contact:  
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**Web site:** [www.redemptoristinenuns.org](http://www.redemptoristinenuns.org)



### Divine Word Missionaries

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Epworth, Iowa 52045  
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**Web site:** [www.svdvocations.org](http://www.svdvocations.org)



### Edmund Rice Christian Brothers

Br. James McDonald, C.F.C.  
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**Web site:** [www.erbrothers.org](http://www.erbrothers.org)



### Home Mission Sisters of America, Inc. (Glenmary Sisters)

John Calhoun  
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### Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul

**Contact:** Sr. Theresa Sullivan, D.C. - 9400 New Harmony Road, Evansville, Ind. 47720 - **Phone:** (812) 963-7556  
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**Web site:** [www.daughters-of-charity.com/](http://www.daughters-of-charity.com/)



### Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers

**Contact:** Deacon Steven DeMartino  
PO Box 305, Maryknoll, NY 10545-0305  
**Phone:** (914) 941-7536 (2449) or (888) 627-9566  
**Web site:** [www.maryknollsociety.org](http://www.maryknollsociety.org)



### Dominican Sisters of Springfield

**Contact:** Sr. Teresa Marron  
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### Sisters of St. Benedict of Ferdinand, Indiana

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### Eucharistic Adoration

The TEC Conference invites each of its faith communities to pray together before the Blessed Sacrament one day each month as part of "TEC Family adoration." TEC Family adoration can easily fit into an existing Eucharistic adoration time at a local parish or with a religious community.

Our end goal is to have at least one TEC community praying before the Blessed Sacrament each day of the month. We would ask that each TEC community let the Conference know when they are praying so we can inform other groups who may want to join them in prayer. For more information:

[www.TECConference.org/Adoration.html](http://www.TECConference.org/Adoration.html)

### Please remember to pray for the following intentions:

- The TEC Movement in the U.S. and abroad.
- The teams and candidates of upcoming weekends locally and around the world.
- That the Holy Spirit will continue to use TEC to further the Kingdom of God on earth.
- The financial stability of the TEC Conference.

### Spirit of TEC Awards

Don't forget to get your nominations in for the **2013 Spirit of TEC Awards**.

Nomination forms went out via e-mail to all community contacts and spiritual directors.

Forms and photos are due back to the TEC Conference office by April 2, 2013.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.