In the midst of renewed hope for Church reform, Fr. Helmut Schüller, founder of the Austrian Priests’ Initiative, will begin his first national speaking tour in New York, this July. He comes because of the initiative of FutureChurch and at the invitation of nine other U.S. Church reform organizations who are sponsoring a fifteen-city tour: The Catholic Tipping Point: Conversations with Fr. Helmut Schüller.

The Austrian Priests’ Initiative (also known as the Pfarrer-Initiative) was organized in 2006 to address an increasing shortage of priests that has forced many Austrian parishes to close. The initiative inspired the establishment of similar priest groups in Germany, Ireland, France, the United States and Australia.

“There needs to be a revival of the importance of the parish for the celebration of Eucharist . . . .”

In June 2011, the Pfarrer-Initiative issued an “Appeal for Disobedience” calling for lay leadership and preaching in parishes without a priest, permission for divorced and remarried Catholics to receive sacraments and support for married and women priests. According to a November 2011 survey, the “Appeal” was positively received by over 70 percent of Austrian priests: “Rather than consolidating parishes, we call for a new image of the priest,” the declaration reads.

Schüller believes that Church leaders have an overly priest-centric view of Christianity that they are reluctant to give up. “They want to be accepted as the intermediaries between God and the people yet Jesus was a layman.... And he made no effort to install a clerical class … he encouraged people to confront God on their own.” Hence he believes the Eucharist is celebrated by a parish community and a leader together. Schüller admits that according to Church doctrine, this leader has to be an ordained priest, but he also believes: “There needs to be a revival of the importance of the parish for the celebration of Eucharist . . . .”

The Pfarrer Initiative was rebuked by Pope Benedict XVI in a sermon last year, and Fr. Schüller, who once served Cardinal Christoph Schönborn as vicar general, was stripped of his honorary title of “Monsignor, Chaplain of His Holiness,” but he remains a priest in good standing.

Father Schüller now works as a regular parish priest in Probstdorf, about half an hour’s drive east of St. Stephen’s Cathedral in Vienna’s old town. “The church is built on the congregation,” Father Schüller said. “You can’t reduce the churchgoer to a consumer, receiving a service.”

Schüller’s U.S. Tour comes in the midst of a steadily worsening priest shortage. Boston is downsizing 288 parishes into 135 parish clusters and the number of available priests will drop from 316 in 2011 to 178 in 2021. A 2009 study from the National Federation of Priests’ Councils found that for every 100 priests who retire, only 30 are available to replace them. According to recent Vatican statistics, since 1975, the number of Catholics worldwide has increase by 71.2 percent to 1.216 billion, but the number of priests increased by only 2.1 percent.

Red ribbons, symbolizing the spirit of Pentecost and calling for the renewal and celebration of the rights of the laity, will be worn by Fr. Schüller and parishioners throughout the tour. The ribbons, which will be collected and carried from city to city, represent a commitment to dialogue between clergy and laity. Organizers have requested a meeting with Timothy Cardinal Dolan of New York, president of the U.S. Bishops’ Conference. They hope to present the ribbons to him at the end of the tour.

Sponsoring Organizations: Call To Action - Catholics in Alliance for the Common Good -CORPUS - DignityUSA
-FutureChurch - National Coalition of American Nuns - New Ways Ministry - Quixote Center - Voice of the Faithful - Women’s Ordination Conference

(Quotations from this article from The Vienna Review, December 1, 2011 and The New York Times, Europe edition, March 22, 2013)
From the Director’s Desk

I will admit to feeling a bit nostalgic now and again as it begins to sink in that these are my last months as FutureChurch Executive Director. This has been offset by the excitement of receiving a generous grant to begin building a new website (going live late Fall) and the frenzy of media work and organizing around an unexpected papal resignation and conclave.

Given the impending conclave, I went to Rome a few days ahead of our previously planned pilgrimage (see next page). And so it was that I found myself huddled beneath a red umbrella on a cold, rainy night watching white smoke billow from the Sistine chimney. But it is too early, I thought with dismay. Church pundits predicted that an early election would mean a conservative Italian cardinal had won. I couldn’t express my distress aloud however, because I was being filmed for a documentary on sisters. I didn’t want to be recorded for eternity as going negative on the next Pope. So I held my peace. (By the way, the documentary is teaching me the ballyhooed “fifteen minutes of fame” is way overrated. I got sick of me many moons ago. I can’t understand why the filmmakers aren’t sick of me. But that’s another story).

At last, the massive doors swung open and the world learned that an Argentinean, Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio, had been elected. And he had taken the name Francis. Francis! Would he be someone close to the people? It didn’t take long to find out. Francis proceeded to stand protocol on end by humbly asking a blessing from the crowd before bestowing his own. A deep hush ensued as our new Pope bent low to receive the prayers of the People of God. When Francis referred to himself as the “Bishop of Rome” (a title we haven’t heard for 30 years), I was moved to tears. Something new is being born - at least symbolically - in our Church I thought. A Pope who recognizes the mutuality of spiritual giftedness and himself as “first among equals,” will have far reaching implications for how we relate to one another.

So, as I transition to my next adventure (taking longed-for time to complete a book project) it is with great gratitude for indescribable experiences such as these. It has been a tremendous gift to work for renewal and reform of a Church I love deeply, sometimes in spite of itself, (and truth be told, sometimes in spite of myself).

On a more practical level, our extraordinarily competent search committee has been hard at work interviewing some truly excellent candidates for FutureChurch’s next Executive Director. They hope to present the final candidate for approval at our June Board meeting. As soon as I know who it is, you can be sure we’ll let you know.

Maybe we’ll figure out a way to do a little white smoke.

Chris Schenk CSJ, Executive Director
During a week of visiting and praying where early Christian women leaders lived and prayed, thirty-five FutureChurch pilgrims saw an excited Italian Church welcome their smiling, pastoral new “Bishop of Rome” -- as he prefers to call himself.

With providential timing, FutureChurch’s third pilgrimage to Rome sites of women leaders in the early Church occurred in the midst of Pope Francis’s installation as the 265th successor of St. Peter. Like every good bishop, Francis was intent on helping everyone remember that their baptismal calling is as important as his own.

The six informative lectures by Dr. Carolyn Osiek RSCJ were enlightening. Osiek is a widely recognized expert on women’s roles in late antiquity. Her lectures accompanied visits to relevant sites such as the Pio Cristiano museum featuring third and fourth century sarcophagi friezes depicting women teaching various Gospel stories. At the catacomb of Domitilla pilgrims examined a fresco of two women with Gospel scrolls and codices, while the catacomb of Priscilla contains a fresco of women sharing an early eucharistic meal. Each site provides its own mute testimony to the all-but-forgotten women leaders in the Church’s first five centuries.

Special prayer services created by Sr. Chris Schenk and led by selected women from the group kept everyone mindful of the needs of our Church today even as we celebrated women leaders of the past. In Ostia, pilgrims honored Monica’s mothering, persevering love that eventually brought her son Augustine to belief. Especially meaningful was a bread-breaking ritual at the catacombs of Priscilla, thought by scholars to be a gathering place for women’s prayer and eucharistic table-sharing.

If a new Pope were not enough, the pilgrimage was enriched by some unique contemporary women leaders. Sr. Kate Kuenstler, the canon lawyer who helped reverse Vatican policy on parish closings, regaled listeners with stories of church politics past and present. A terrific documentary crew, Rebecca Parish and Shuling Yong, from InterChange Productions shot footage for a new film about Catholic sisters. Sylvia Poggioli and U.S. producers from National Public Radio arrived to cover the Ostia tour. Sylvia’s three minute story aired on April 1, and is available on the website.

But let’s hear some “favorite parts” from the pilgrims themselves!

Walking the very streets the early women leaders walked. Seeing the physical proof of their leadership. Doing this with the most wonderful women on this pilgrimage.

I loved our pilgrimage. It was rigorous at times (difficult walking and long days)... Thank you for the work and effort to make this an informative walk back into history BUT with the ultimate goal of moving us forward with leadership skills and the certainty of what needs to be restored in our church.

My favorite aspect of the pilgrimage was learning from scholars like Dr. Osiek and Sr. Chris and sharing my faith and passion with the women on the tour. I loved every minute of this experience.

The lectures, sights and logistics were what I expected with the exception of the Pio Cristiano museum where I was stunned to see the number of sarcophagi showing leadership roles of women...

The prayer services in the catacombs of Priscilla and in Ostia were awesome.

The added bonus of the election of Pope Francis was something I will never forget. I was impressed by the ability of all to make schedule changes as a result.

Next year’s Pilgrimage to Rome and Ostia is set for March 20-27...but book early. We sold out last time. Visit www.futurechurch.org for details.

SIGN UP SOON! LAST YEAR’S PILGRIMAGE SOLD OUT EARLY
A Pilgrimage to Archaeological Sites of Women Officeholders in the Early Church: Rome and Ostia Dr. Carolyn Osiek RSCJ, Educational Director, Sr. Christine Schenk CSJ, Spiritual Director
March 20 - 27, 2014 - $3,279 ALL INCLUSIVE! from New York
Info and flyer at http://pilgrimages.com/futurechurch Or email chris@futurechurch.org
FutureChurch's Women and the Word teleconferences returned in 2013 with a three-part series focused on educating and empowering callers to find their own voice and advocate for justice in their diocese. Each teleconference reached between 60-150 people.

In February Sr. Kate spoke on the rights and obligations of the laity as found in Book Two of Canon Law. She reminded us that all Catholics can and should use Canon Law as a tool for seeking justice.

Dr. Paul Lakeland joined us in April to discuss primacy of conscience and when it is necessary to dissent. He offered guidance on the importance of forming our conscience and the obligation of Catholics to act in accordance with our conscience at all times.

May’s presentation by Dr. Zagano outlined the case for ordaining women as deacons in the Roman Catholic Church. Inspired by this foundation, FutureChurch is creating a network of information and support for communities and potential deacon candidates*. If you missed any or all of these calls, podcasts are available at futurechurch.org.

We hope you are inspired to advocate for justice in your community and that you Find Your Voice!

NunJustice Project Continues Strong Support of Sisters

Catholics are continuing their heartfelt support the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR). Some are holding monthly prayer vigils; others are sending letters to Church officials. After the April 15, 2013, Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (CDF) statement saying that Pope Francis had reaffirmed actions taken against LCWR, over 500 people downloaded resources from the nunjustice.org website and sent online or paper communications to church officials. Letters to the editor in several cities invited Pope Francis to “come and see” the good works sisters are doing. For now though, the issue seems to be in limbo. Cardinal Joao Braz de Aviz, prefect for the Congregations for Religious and a known confidante of Pope Francis, recently spoke of his pain that the CDF chose not to consult his office before the LCWR mandate was issued. Some hold out hope that Pope Francis will eventually meet directly with LCWR leadership.

Since last June, 1,246 people have pledged $106,298 to support local religious communities. Seventy-five percent said they diverted the money from Peter’s Pence contributions. Visit nunjustice.org for resources.

Finding Your Voice Teleconference Series

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*If you feel called to the diaconate or would like to be a local organizer in support of this effort please contact liz@futurechurch.org for more information.

Magdala Celebrations to Honor Women of Vatican II

This July FutureChurch is encouraging Catholics to celebrate the legacy of Mary of Magdala by remembering the 23 women – all but unknown - who attended the Second Vatican Council as auditors.

As the Apostle to the Apostles, St Mary of Magdala, proclaimed good news to the world, but in the 20th century, the women of Vatican II brought the good news of God’s life-giving love in the world to the Vatican Council. Catholic women advised bishops in Council subcommittees and those documents inspired the laity. The participation of women at Vatican II opened the way for the acceptance of theologians in the modern Church.

In 2013 we honor these modern day “Apostles to the Apostles” who were ambassadors from the “world of women” to the body of bishops. Women such as Rosemary Goldie, Sr. Mary Luke Tobin, Luz-Marie Alvarez-Icaza and so many others helped to disclose the vision of a new Church, unified, egalitarian, accepting and loving.

This vision is apparent in the words of Gaudium et Spes: “Every type of discrimination, whether social or cultural, whether based on sex, color, social condition, language, or religion is to be overcome and eradicated as contrary to God’s intent” (29).

Plan your celebration today with a free organizing kit: Women of Vatican II: Daughters of Mary of Magdala and prayer service available for download at futurechurch.org.

Can a woman receive the sacrament of orders?

Order our A Million Voices resource includes three part education program discussing Catholic teaching and the non-ordination of women. Visit www.futurechurch.org to download ($3.00) or order ($5.00).

CD of Georgetown debate ($8.00)

Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world’s grief. Do justly, now. Love mercy, now. Walk humbly, now. You are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to abandon it.

The Talmud
FutureChurch announces 23rd Annual Fall Event

Living the Legacy of Vatican II with Jamie L. Manson and Bishop Thomas Gumbleton

Friday evening, October 4 and Saturday morning, October 5, 2013

On October 4th and 5th FutureChurch celebrates the 50th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council with two very special programs. The Friday evening “Directors’ Reception” features a keynote by well-known journalist Jamie Manson who reflects on living the legacy of the Council in today’s world. And we will meet our new Executive Director, [still to be announced] while giving a warm send off to Sr. Chris Schenk, our retiring Executive Director as she begins a new adventure in her work for the Church. Join your friends, fellow members and guests at the Airport Marriott Hotel around 6:00 p.m. for heavy hors d’oeuvres from the renowned Amp 150 Restaurant. Single event tickets start at $60.

Saturday morning is a panel presentation by Cleveland’s “Vatican II Veterans” and “Next Generation Vatican II leaders.” The “Veterans” will tell the story of how priest and lay leadership were key to making Vatican II happen in the Cleveland diocese, and the “Next Gen Leaders” will cover what Vatican II means to them and to the Church today. Jamie Manson and Bishop Gumbleton will be on hand as reflectors and animators while table groupings offer their own insights. Saturday’s program goes from 8:30-noon and is being held at River’s Edge, a sponsored ministry of the Congregation of St. Joseph. Tickets start at $35 and include a continental breakfast.

Jamie L. Manson is an award-winning columnist at the National Catholic Reporter. As a lay minister she has served two Manhattan churches as director of faith formation and director of social justice ministries where she worked directly with New York City’s homeless and poor populations. She is a nationally sought-after speaker, retreat leader, and media commentator on issues related to young adult Catholics, LGBT Catholics, and the future of the church. An archive of Jamie’s articles is available at http://ncronline.org.

Bishop Thomas Gumbleton is no stranger to Cleveland or to FutureChurch. Gumbleton, a retired auxiliary bishop of the Detroit archdiocese, has long been a leading voice for peace, justice, and civil rights in the United States and in the Catholic Church. For more information visit www.bishopgumbleton.com.

Details, including two-day ticket prices and guest accommodations, will be available at futurechurch.org on July 1. Invitations will mail mid-August. Friends and non-members are welcome.

Reservation information for guest rooms will be published soon.

Airport Marriott, 4277 W. 150 St., Cleveland, OH 44135, 216-252-5333, marriott.com/cleap

River’s Edge, 3430 Rocky River Dr., Cleveland, OH 44111, riversedgecleveland.com

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New British group calls for end to fear in the church. Fear within the church is inhibiting bishops, priests, and laity from advocating needed church reforms said a new British group, A Call to Action (Acta), at its first meeting in early May. The general secretary of the Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales attended along with 65 representatives from various dioceses. “Bishops who are frightened of Rome, laity fearful of priests, priests fearful of bishops. It is not creative and there seems to be a lot of it in the church” said organizer Chris Larkman. Leaders hope to meet with the bishops of England and Wales in coming months (The Tablet, 5/11/13).

German women reject “special diaconate” for women. The 220,000-strong Catholic Women’s Association in Germany recently criticized a proposal from the German bishops to create a special diaconal office for women that did not include ordination. “That is not enough” said the group’s spokesperson Ute Hückler. “Catholic women in Germany want to see deacons who are women. We want the full office and the training that goes with it” (The Tablet, 5/11/13).

U.S. Archbishop advocates decentralized church structures. Emeritus Archbishop John R. Quinn of San Francisco has published a book Ever Ancient, Ever New: Structures of Communion in the Church that advocates greater decision making authority for the world’s bishops. In an interview with Vatican Insider, Quinn said: “A deliberative or decision-making synod would have several advantages . . . . These members would be bishops actually involved in the pastoral care and government of a diocese in various parts of the world . . . . In a world of rapid change and instant communication the ability to call on wide input such as this would be a very great advantage.” Robert Mickens of The Tablet reports that Pope Francis has read the Spanish language edition of Quinn’s earlier book, The Reform of the Papacy published in 2005 (Vatican Insider, 4/26/13 and The Tablet, 4/20/13).

Senior Irish priest resigns over treatment of Fr. Tony Flannery. In early February, Fr John Hassett, dean of the prominent Maynooth deanery, resigned in protest at “the disrespectful and unjust treatment of Fr. Tony Flannery” by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (CDF). Flannery is a Redemptorist who founded the Irish Association of Catholic priests. Among other things the association has called for married and women priests. He was subsequently asked by the CDF to recant or face excommunication, which sparked widespread protest (The Tablet, 2/23/13).

Catholic Ordinariate admits first married seminarian. Andrew Harding is a married layman and the first seminarian to study for the Roman Catholic priesthood in the Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham in England. If accepted by Pope Francis he will be the first married layman to become a priest who had not previously been ordained a Church of England priest or deacon. The ordinariate was created by Pope Benedict to allow disaffected Anglicans to enter into the Roman church while retaining some of their own traditions (The Tablet, 5/11/13).

US priests don’t like new Missal translations. According to a survey released May 21st by Saint John’s School of Theology in Collegeville, Minn. Fifty-nine percent of priests surveyed said they do not like the new Mass translations, which all Catholic parishes in the country were mandated to use beginning in fall 2011. Eighty percent said they agreed with an assessment that the Latin to English translation is “awkward and distracting.” Sixty-one percent said the new language needs to be revised “urgently” (National Catholic Reporter, 5/21/2013).

Parish closing and appeal news

Philadelphia to merge 27 parishes. On Sunday June 2, the Archdiocese of Philadelphia announced it would merge 27 parishes into ten citing demographic shifts, declining Mass attendance and a decrease in clergy. The decision is leaving some parishioners at St. Leo parish dismayed: “It’s leaving a bitter taste in everyone’s mouth,” said one parishioner. “... Never once have I ever questioned my faith until now. And it’s not so much that I’m questioning my faith - .... I’m questioning the people who are in charge, making decisions.” (Philadelphia Inquirer 6/2/13)

Canadians protest church closing. In mid-May about 30 parishioners from Immaculate Conception parish in Sydney, Nova Scotia protested a decision to close their church. The Diocese of Antigonish is closing about a dozen churches, citing a shrinking population, a declining number of priests and financial shortfalls. Alma Ashe, a parishioner for over 80 years, had this to say: “How can one person come and tell you they’re taking the church? They don’t own the church. They never paid the upkeep. As poor as some of the people were, they gave [to the] collection.” The protest ended after officials from the diocese agreed to meet with the group. (Canadian Broadcasting Company News, 5/23/13).

Chicago Catholics appeal planned church demolition. On Easter Sunday, members of St. James Catholic Church braved gray skies and chilly weather Sunday to protest the demolition of their beloved 132-year-old parish. The “Friends of Historic St. James,” a group of parishioners and architectural preservationists trying to save the building are pleading with the Archdiocese to work with them to save the building. They have appealed to Rome and are awaiting a decision (Chicago Tribune, 4/30/13).

Half of Saginaw churches to reduce services. At a January press conference, Saginaw Bishop Joseph Cistone announced his intent to reorganize the diocese’s 109 parish communities reducing services at 53 churches. Some will stop holding regular services altogether. Some parishioners are appealing the decision (Michigan Live, 1/20/13).
Repair My House: Becoming a “Kindom” Catholic
by Michael Crosby

Book Review by Diana Culbertson, OP

“Blockbuster” is a word usually used for bad movies. I don’t know of another word, however, that adequately describes what Michael Crosby has accomplished in this study of how reflection on Trinitarian love can help us to understand the problems of current Church structure. Basing his analysis on the Gospel of Matthew particularly, Crosby distinguishes between what he describes as Culture I Catholics and Culture II Catholics. The former base their ecclesiology primarily on Matthew 16: “Thou art Peter….” Culture II Catholics emphasize Matthew 18: “Where two or three are gathered…..” Crosby’s argument is that tradition has eclipsed scripture as a way of understanding the Church.

The community emphasized in Matthew 18 is the Church the author describes as the most authentic continuation of Trinitarian love. The “economy” of the Trinity, is the model of what should be the “household “ of the Church. Mutual love, dynamic interrelations, mission—this is the origin of Church. This is the model that should govern the household founded by Jesus Christ. Authoritarianism, compulsion, exclusionary tactics—these do not flow from the mission of Jesus which is in turn the mission of the Father and Son. Catholics, the author urges, must let go of a past dominated by an overly patriarchal and clericalized form of Catholicism to embrace a new way of making Catholicism come alive. This new model requires us to go back to Jesus’ original proclamation. Jesus invited people to a new “way,” a dao, demanding a conversion to a new understanding of how to bring about God’s kingdom on earth. The “good news” was itself a radical displacement of the Roman term for announcement. The Gospel of Jesus was a new announcement of a new kind of kingdom—a “kindom.” Jesus called for a new way of living with one another, a way that is modeled on the “economic” Trinity, the “household” of three Persons in communion, three Persons whose love for One Another is to be shared with all of creation.

The “kindom” of Trinitarian connectedness must be the model of God’s “kindom” on earth. Crosby lists what he describes as seven “sacramentals” that envision ways to live in the “kindom” proclaimed by Christ. The cosmic way requires that we move from a human-centered “anthropological “ world-view to an eco-centric or creation-centered stance toward all of life. The “Christic” way to live acknowledges that a new order has begun on earth that disallows divisions based on sex, gender, tribe, nationality, age, race, or clerical status. Divisions based on inequality cannot reflect Trinitarian love. The “kindom” announced by Christ requires a new consciousness, a new awakening, returning us to a realization of what is important in life. Since all creation is from God, all creation is connected. Understanding our “connectedness” is fundamental to our relations in the “kindom.” The contemplative way leads us to compassion and addresses particularly those situations where people are marginalized and urges us to work for necessary changes in society. The compassionate way enables us to see and to respond to our neighbor. All of these “ways” lead to a community that is both Christic and cosmic.

Essential to understanding Crosby’s analysis is his argument that the crisis of faith in the Church is really a crisis of meaning. The environment that has dominated the Church in the last several generations (if not before) is caused by the contradiction between a mystical organic identity reflective of mutual love and communion—in short, the Trinity of Love and—and an organizational identity that is closed, exclusive, authoritarian, and ultimately dysfunctional. If this is a harsh analysis, Crosby does not leave us without hope. The Gospel continues to bring transformative power in our personal, communal, and institutional behavior. But the deepest meaning of the Gospel must be recovered if the Church is to be an instrument of holiness for the Household of God, the Kindom.

Organizing for Women Deacons Begins

FutureChurch is committed to expanding the ministry of women in the Catholic Church and our newest effort Women Deacons: Why Not Now? is poised to do just that.

The project helps Catholics learn the rich history of female deacons, discover why the Church should restore the female diaconate, and implement a discernment process to surface women candidates for presentation to their bishop. Already over eighty people have downloaded or purchased the resource.

Now we are ready to do the work of this renewal in our church! Already local organizers are educating their parishes, finding candidates, and meeting with their bishop. To reach the goal of surfacing candidates in 8-10 dioceses, we are developing a network of local organizers in the US and worldwide.

At this writing, we have 33 organizers in 6 countries. The presence of our international brothers and sisters reminds us of the universal community of our Church and the global issue of priest shortage. In May German Archbishop Robert Zollitsch argued that the Church is ready for women in the diaconate. In doing so, he echoed the sentiments of US Bishop Emil Wcela’s 2012 article in America, “Why Not Women.”

There is clearly a global call for women to be recognized for the diaconal service they are already doing in our Church: serving the poor, feeding the hungry, accompanying the sick and dying, and teaching in our parish schools of religions. In the US alone, an estimated 80 percent of over 30,000 lay ecclesial ministers are women, most of whom already have the qualifications to be ordained permanent deacons.

At FutureChurch we are working to create a new critical mass on behalf of women who wish to serve as well as those already serving in our parishes. These are women called to preach the good news of Jesus Christ who summoned both women and men to be his disciples.

Join the movement today! Add your locale to our list and get free resources to start the conversation.

Email liz@futurechurch.org for more information
Women Deacons: Why Not Now? Resource packets available in print ($10) or as a download ($5) at futurechurch.org
Quotable Quote:

Above all, he's a person of dialogue. . . I think all the various sectors of the church will be able to dialogue with him.

(Jesuit Fr. Miguel Yanez, moral theologian at the Gregorian University and long-time friend of Pope Francis, National Catholic Reporter May 10-23)

A LOOK AHEAD


Friday, October 4 and Saturday, October 5: Living the Legacy of Vatican II 23rd Annual FutureChurch program: Jamie Manson and others. Cleveland, Airport Marriott and River’s Edge Watch website for details.


Saturday, November 2: Yes, You Can Change Vatican Policy Canon lawyer Sr. Kate Kuenstler and FutureChurch’s Sr. Chris Schenk tell the story of successful appeals to keep Church’s open. National Call To Action Conference, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Information at www.cta-usa.org.

SAVE the DATES!

Friday, October 4 (keynote)
Saturday, October 5 (morning workshop)

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