

WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY` MEDIA FAIR

Sunday: 23 May 2004

St. John Cantius Church; Chicago, IL

THE FR. JOHN A. HARDON, S.J. MEDIA APOSTOLATE

will host an exhibit in the Parish Hall

for the purpose of

communicating the importance of Catholic involvement
in the proper use and promotion of the various forms of Media
in our daily life.

Our Holy Father, John Paul 11, has designated Sunday (May 23, 2004) as:

WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY

Based upon the Theme: **The Media and the Family: A Risk and a Richness**

This theme brings into focus the much needed reflection on the realities of the enormous influence the media of social communications has upon motivating the attitudes and actions of individuals and families to include all other segments of society. We are therefore invited not only to reflect upon, but indeed to also act upon, three fundamental issues:

The varied use families make of the media.

The way families and family concerns are being treated by the media.

And how do we respond to and influence these two situations.

The printed word, radio, television, film and the electronic forms of media profoundly influences our attitudes and actions encountered in our daily lives. Their impact is manifested not only through individuals and families, but indeed in all inter-related cultural, religious, political, and economic aspects of society as a whole - for better or for worse.

This Media Fair is being presented to address these issues. This is in response to a call from His Holiness to all Catholics for renewed Evangelization in the Church and its extension into the world. This is a universal call to promote the following through the proper use of the media inherent in addressing these fundamental issues:

Evangelization:

A deeper conversion and reaffirmation of our Faith;

Protecting and proclaiming Catholic values and teachings; and to

Strengthening our catechesis and commitment to knowing, proclaiming and living
the Gospel message of Christ in our daily life.

Knowing how the media distorts the truth, and what effect this has upon your family.

Discover some of the media resources available for family-friendly viewing, reading and listening.

Learn how:

To make proper use of the various forms of the media.

To make your voice heard when the media is socially irresponsible and
fails us in moral and societal related issues.

To defend the Catholic Faith, and how

To evangelize through the media.

It is also essential to point out Fr. John A. Hardon, S.J.(1914-2000) was tireless in motivating the proper use of all forms of social communications to teach the Catholic Faith, especially when directed towards enriching family life and in evangelizing the world. This is made evident by the fact he was a prolific author, teacher, public speaker, and learned theologian who utilized the media in his unwavering defense of the Faith. He emphasized the importance of all forms of media in serving this purpose. He was ahead of his time in the analysis of the impact the media of social communication would have upon evangelization and related societal issues. This Apostolate receives its inspiration and formation from the works of Fr. John A. Hardon, S.J. in implementing the directives of the Vatican documents on social communications.
