

# 38th World Communications Day

## Sunday, May 23, 2004

### *The Media and the Family: A Risk and A Richness*

Our Holy Father, John Paul II, has designated Sunday, May 23, as World Communications Day. In response to the call of His Holiness to the New Evangelization, to faith and conversion, to protecting and spreading traditional Catholic family values, the Fr. John A. Hardon, S.J. Media Apostolate is hosting a special Media Fair at St. John Cantius Church, Chicago.

This year's theme, *The Media and the Family: A Risk and A Richness*, brings into focus the realities of the enormous influence the media of social communications has upon motivating the attitudes and actions of individuals, families and society as a whole.

Radio, television, film, print and electronic forms of media profoundly influence our attitudes and actions—for better or for worse.

The World Communications Day “Media Fair” is intended to

- Equip individuals and families with simple—yet highly effective—tools they can use to counter attacks on the Catholic Faith
- Offer sound media resources for family-friendly viewing, reading and listening
- Strengthen our catechesis and commitment to the Holy Father's call for renewed Evangelization in the Church and its extension into the world

We hope that, through this presentation, you will learn how much power your family really has when it comes to standing up for our faith, for our values, and for our families.

—Fr. John A. Hardon, S.J. Media Apostolate

## World Communications Day Exhibits

### **Cinema Information**

- What are the ratings for current films?
- How can I determine which videos are appropriate for family viewing?
- What sources are their for buying good films?

### **Evangelization through the Media**

- What does the term “evangelization” mean?
- How can I answer the Holy Father's call to evangelization?
- What is “World Communications Day” and how does the Holy Father's message relate to me?

### **Marian Catechists**

- How can I spiritually prepare myself to defend the Catholic faith?
- What exactly is the Marian Catechists?
- Why did Fr. Hardon establish the Marian Catechists?

### **Media Response**

- How do I begin to write a letter in response to negative coverage in the media?
- What are some examples of effective letters?
- How do I get my letter to the appropriate people?

### **Media Apostolate Website**

- How do I use the website?
- What information will I find on the website?

### **Prayer Warriors**

- How can my prayers support the Media Apostolate?
- What is the Real Presence Association?

### **Writers Guild**

- What do I need to do if I want to write Catholic books.
- How do I determine what books to write?
- What are the steps in getting my works published?

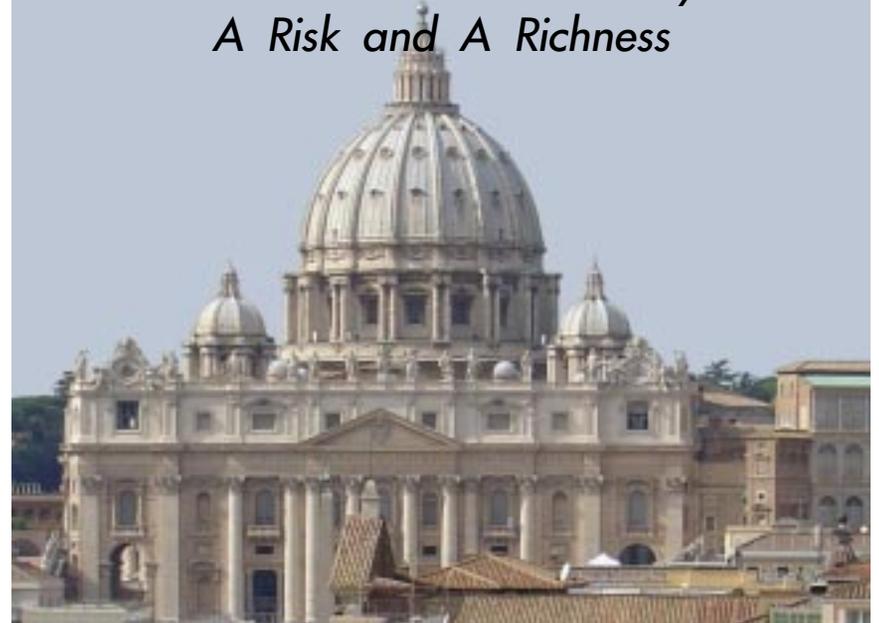
Fr. John A. Hardon, S.J. (1914-2000) was tireless in motivating the proper use of all forms of social communications to teach the Catholic Faith, especially when directed towards enriching family life and in evangelizing the world. This is made evident by the fact that he was a prolific author, teacher, 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 the implementation of the directives of the Vatican documents on Social Communications.

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**St. John Cantius, Chicago, Illinois**  
Sunday, May 23, 2004

# *World Communications Day*

**38th Annual Observance**  
*The Media and the Family:  
A Risk and A Richness*



Presented by the  
**Fr. John A. Hardon, S.J. Media Apostolate**