

7-12-08 - New bishop brings hope to Voice of the Faithful
News Journal (DE), Opinion

The people of the Diocese of Wilmington should be heartened to have the caliber of a man such as William Francis Malooly as their next bishop.

His statements that he will meet with anyone who wants to discuss the issue of sexual abuse give us hope because as Bishop Malooly says, it's an insidious, horrible crime, and nothing makes it right.

Members of the group known as Voice of the Faithful also welcome Bishop Malooly to our diocese because as faithful Catholics we too are deeply concerned with this problem and its causes that have so adversely affected our Church and its mission at the present time.

Voice of the Faithful is a worldwide movement of concerned mainstream Catholics which was formed in 2002 in response to the clergy sexual abuse crisis.

Our goals are to support survivors of clergy sexual abuse, support priests of integrity, and shape structural change within the Catholic Church so that our Church will not face another such debacle in the future.

As Australian Bishop Geoffrey Robinson has said repeatedly as he addressed Catholics across the country, "What is needed is an open and honest discussion of such matters by the whole Church," and "changes in external structures can help, but they cannot of themselves produce a new church. The more important change is the change of mind and heart."

Members of Voice of the Faithful look forward to that dialog with our new bishop.

Welcome, Bishop Fran.

Sister Maureen Paul Turlish, New Castle