

PRESS RELEASE

PHYLLIS ZAGANO, Ph.D., TO DISCUSS WOMEN IN MINISTRY

Phyllis Zagano, Ph.D., a Senior Research Associate-in-Residence at Hofstra University, will speak on the topic, "Women in Ministry," at Voice of the Faithful's monthly meeting on Thursday, November 1, at 7:30 p.m. at the First Congregational Church on the Green in Norwalk. Everyone is invited to attend.

Dr. Zagano is author/editor of 10 books on religious studies, including, "Holy Saturday: An Argument for the Restoration of the Female Diaconate in the Catholic Church," winner of the First Place Book Award from the Catholic Press Association and the College Theology Society Annual Book Award (2002). She has also taught at Fordham, Boston and Yale Universities and worked as a researcher for the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New York. Dr. Zagano joined Hofstra University in 2002 and teaches, "Introduction to Western Religions" and "Mysticism and Spiritual Quest."

The stated mission of Voice of the Faithful, an organization of mainstream Catholics, is to be " a prayerful voice, attentive to the Spirit, through which the faithful can actively participate in the governance and guidance of the Catholic Church." VOTF believes that a reasoned dialogue among bishop, priests, nuns, and laymen and women will contribute to the renewal of the Church.

In order to encourage greater lay participation in the governance of the Church, VOTF developed five proposals for structural change: (1) the election of bishops by the clergy and people of the diocese; (2) the right of parishioners to participate with the bishop in the selection of their pastors; (3) the establishment of elected, representative diocesan pastoral and finance councils with real authority; (4) the establishment of elected, representative parish pastoral and finance councils with real authority; and (5) the right of the faithful as members of a parish corporation consisting of their elected representatives, the bishop, and the pastor, to own church property. The full text of the proposals can be consulted by clicking on HOME page and then Proposal.

For further information about VOTF in the Diocese of Bridgeport and for directions to the First Congregational Church on the Green in Norwalk return to HOME page.