



Voice of the Faithful™

"Keep the Faith, Change the Church"™

October 30, 2003

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

POST TO SPEAK AT VOTF

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JAMES POST TO SPEAK AT VOICE OF THE FAITHFUL

James E. Post, President of Voice of the Faithful, will speak at the regular monthly meeting of Voice of the Faithful in the Diocese of Bridgeport on Thursday, November 6, at the First Congregational Church on the Green in Norwalk at 7:30 p.m.

One of the founders of VOTF at St. John the Evangelist Parish in Wellesley, Massachusetts, Dr. Post, professor at Boston University's School of Management, has traveled widely to spread the message of VOTF. He also participated in the conference "Being Catholic in the 21st Century: Crisis, Challenge, Opportunity" sponsored by VOTF in the Tri-State area (New York, New Jersey, Connecticut) on Saturday October 25 at the Bronx Campus of Fordham University. Some 1500 people attended the conference and went home educated, inspired, and energized to continue the work of reforming our Church.

Voice of the Faithful, an organization of mainstream Catholics, seeks "to provide a prayerful voice, attentive to the Spirit, through which the faithful can actively participate in the governance and guidance of the Catholic Church. Its goals are three: to support those who have been abused; to support priests of integrity, and to shape structural change within the Church.

The Bridgeport VOTF welcomes contributions to its Compassion Fund established to provide direct assistance to diocesan charities. Financial assistance has recently been provided to Family Stages and the Thomas Merton Center in Bridgeport providing assistance the poor, the disabled and the marginalized. Contributions for forthcoming Compassion Fund distributions may be sent to VOTF, PMB104, 2513 Kings Highway No. Darien Ct 06820.

For further information about VOTF in the Diocese of Bridgeport and for directions to the First Congregational Church on the Green in Norwalk consult www.votfbpt.org. Everyone is invited to attend the meeting.

The Fairfield-Westchester VOTF affiliate will meet on Tuesday, November 18 at 7:30 p.m. at Christ Church in Greenwich. Further Norwalk information is available from Jim Alvord (203-847-4145) and from Tom Malarkey (914-946-7315 for Fairfield-Westchester. Both affiliates are part of the Boston worldwide VOTF (www.votf.org) an organization of over 30,000 mainstream practicing Catholics in 188 Parish Voice Affiliates in 40 U.S. states and 21 countries formed in response to the current multi-nation clergy sexual abuse crisis. **Bridgeport Bishop William E. Lori does not allow local groups to meet on Catholic Church premises**