



# THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

*Preserving American Jewish History*

MS-603: Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum Collection, 1945-1992.

Series G: Speaking Engagements. 1975-1992

Box 106, Folder 18, GESU Parish [Cleveland, Ohio]. 24 March  
1976.



SPIRITUAL CHALLENGES OF '76 - A Bicentennial Interfaith Lecture Series - Sponsored by Gesu Church

March 10 - Rev. James Hennesey, S.J.

Father Hennesey, since 1973, has been president and professor of Modern and American Religious History at Jesuit School of Theology in Chicago. Born in Jersey City, N.J. in 1926, Father Hennesey entered the New York Province of The Society of Jesus in 1943 and was ordained priest in 1957. He taught at Fordham University in New York City and at the Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, California. He has been a visiting professor at Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, University of Chicago, Stanford University, Union Theological Seminary, New York, Regis College, Toronto, and Memorial University, Newfoundland. A widely published writer, he will speak in April on the Roman Catholic Tradition of Religious Liberty at the Interfaith Bicentennial Conference in Philadelphia. His topic at Gesu is: "Catholics in God's New Israel: A Bicentennial Review."

March 26 - Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum

Rabbi Tanenbaum is national director, Interreligious Affairs of The American Jewish Committee. A widely acclaimed religious historian and authority on Judaism and Jewish-Christian relations, he holds five doctorates among his many awards, the latest of which is that of the Religious Heritage of America. He has lectured at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Cambridge in England, Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Graduate Theological Union, Notre Dame, and Catholic University. Rabbi Tanenbaum, described as the leading figure among Jewish ecumenists, was the only Rabbi at Vatican Council II. He has worked with United Nations and UNESCO as well as the U. S. Government and his world-wide concerns include Soviet Jewry and famine relief for Africa and Asia. He serves on the Religious Leaders Committee of the National Bicentennial Commission. At Gesu, Rabbi Tanenbaum will speak on "The American Bicentennial: Moral Challenges to Jews and Christians."

March 31 - Dr. Van A. Harvey

Dr. Harvey is professor of Religious Thought and chairman of the Department at the University of Pennsylvania. He was born in China of missionary parents in 1926 and was brought to the United States in 1929. Raised in California, he served in the Navy during World War II. He was graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Occidental College in 1946, received his B.D. from Yale Divinity School and Ph.D. from Yale University. He has taught at Princeton and Southern Methodist Universities. Married and the father of two sons, he is an enthusiastic motion picture goer and has reviewed movies for the Episcopal Churchnews. He is widely published in religious journals and holds numerous academic awards. Dr. Harvey speaks at Gesu on "The New Christian-Jewish Dialogue."

April 7 - Sister Catherine Pinkerton C.S.J.

St. Joseph Sister Catherine Pinkerton is consultant to Parish Councils for the Diocese of Cleveland and is the immediate past president of the National Assembly of Women Religious. Sister taught in elementary and junior high schools in the Cleveland and Youngstown Dioceses and was principal of St. Joseph Academy from 1968 to 1973. She has participated at national and international levels in conferences on religious life and church personnel. Presently, she is board member of National Conference on Interracial Justice and a member of National Advisory Council of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops and the United States Catholic Conference. Sister will address the topic, "Our Gospel Commitments for the 80's."

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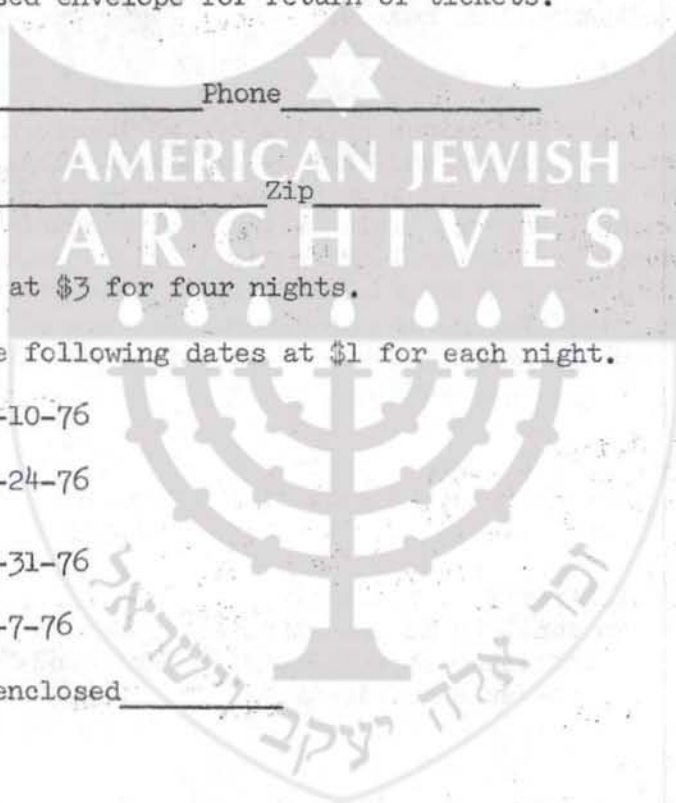
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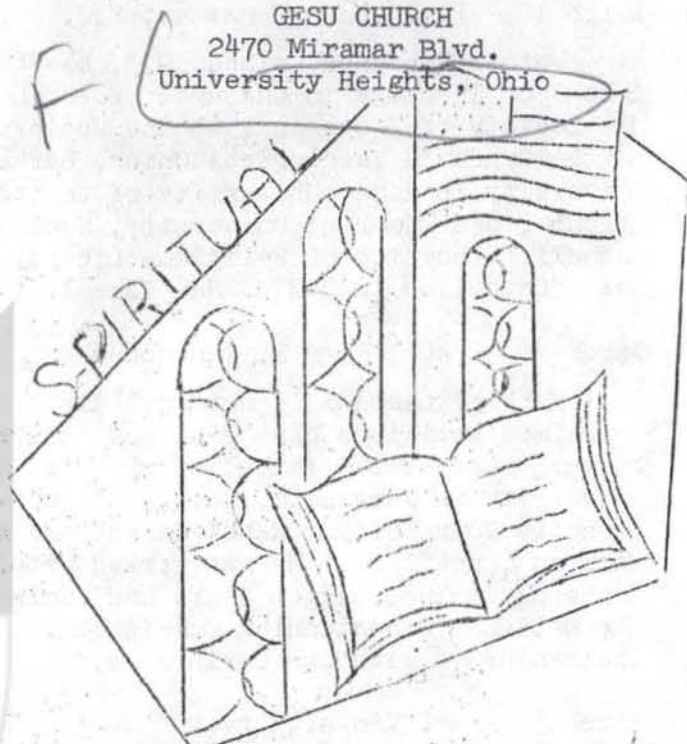
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Interfaith Lecture Series

GESU CHURCH  
2470 Miramar Blvd.  
University Heights, Ohio



CHALLENGES OF '76

Guest Speakers

Rev. James Hennesey S.J.  
March 10

Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum  
March 24

Dr. Van A. Harvey  
March 31

Sister Catherine Pinkerton C.S.J.  
April 7

8:00 P.M.

3/24 F



DIOCESE OF CLEVELAND

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

28700 EUCLID AVENUE

WICKLIFFE, OHIO 44092

PHONE (216) 585-0770

REV. PETER J. WOLL  
Director

REV. MARK A. DINARDO, Ph.D.  
Assistant Director

February 10, 1976

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum  
National Director Inter-Religious Affairs  
American Jewish Committee  
165 E. 56th St.  
New York, New York 10022

Dear Rabbi Tanenbaum:

I want to take this occasion to commend the astuteness of the American Jewish Committee in naming Mr. Seymour Brief to the area directorship in New England. New England's gain is our loss. For the past three years Sy and I have worked together and been able to achieve what I feel are some rather significant gains.

Two years ago we conducted a survey on how Judaism was taught in our Catholic High Schools (we have thirty high schools). The results of the survey the American Jewish Committee very graciously printed for distribution to sources both Jewish and Catholic. Following this survey, we met with Dr. Fred McCarty of Cleveland State University's School of Education with a view to assessing the data and raising the question - where do we go from here. As a result of our deliberations in a workshop with the Chairpersons of the Religion Departments of Catholic High Schools, we determined to work on an instrument which would surface latent prejudices and confront students with the graphic discrepancy between avowed religious beliefs on brotherhood and other data from their experience. We look forward to the completion of this instrument and its possible usage on an optional basis in our schools.

Another result of our deliberations, together with Sister Ruth Ann Bruner we developed a series of objectives which might make possible the teaching of denominationalism in a pluralistic context. These objectives I shared with you at the "Faith Without Prejudice" Conference in St. Louis some six months ago. I am rather excited about an opportunity provided by Sy to share these with the congregation at Park Synagogue in Cleveland in a six-week adult education program.

But people are far more valuable than things. In Mr. Brief you have one of the finest people I have ever come to know. He combines knowledgeability, understanding, expertise, and a sincere warm open personality in an individual any organization or movement would be proud to number among its adherents.

Rabbi Marc C. Tanenbaum

I consider myself privileged to number Mr. Brief as one of my friends and look forward to working together with him, perhaps at a distance now, to achieve the aims enunciated in the St. Louis Conference: Faith Without Prejudice.

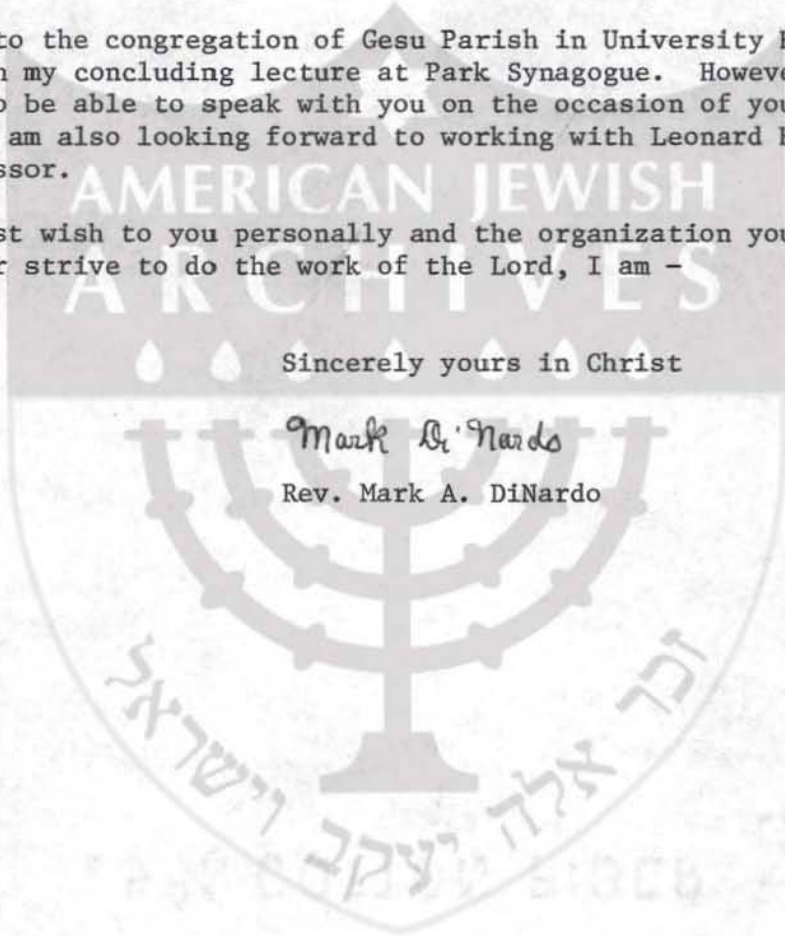
Your address to the congregation of Gesu Parish in University Heights coincides with my concluding lecture at Park Synagogue. However, I sincerely hope to be able to speak with you on the occasion of your visit to Cleveland. I am also looking forward to working with Leonard Hirsch, Mr. Brief's successor.

With every best wish to you personally and the organization you represent as we together strive to do the work of the Lord, I am -

Sincerely yours in Christ

*Mark DiNardo*

Rev. Mark A. DiNardo



## Toward an Ecumenical Context in the Teaching of Catholicism Today

- The student should be aware that men share their human experience in common - they differ in their understanding and interpretation of that human experience.
- The student should be aware that from the beginning man has groped with the question of meaning in life and that to the degree that these have been authentic strivings to come to an understanding and meaningful interpretation of life, they are, for the believer, responses to the author of life.
- The student should be aware that each of these interpretations of life must be taken seriously as he, a believer, reflects upon the history of God's dealings with man.
- Among these interpretations of life are theistic ones and secular ones, each of which the student, as a believer, must respect and for which he must have an appreciation in the context of his recognition that God calls all men to himself.
- As to those holding to a secular interpretation of life, the student as believer should couple a profound respect for the vision they pursue, with a cooperation toward the "building of the earth" and the formation of the community of mankind.
- As to those holding to an interpretation of life which includes belief in a creator God, students as believers, see themselves related to them as co-believers and collaborators in bringing about among men a sensitivity towards God's goodness, his presence, and his loving concern for mankind.
- With his co-believers, the student as believer, sees himself as one in reverencing and respecting and worshipping God, a unity upon which much that is fruitful and enriching can be shared.
- The student should have an appreciation for all believers maintaining a religious meaning towards life, and as Catholic believer, should have a special appreciation for those espousing the faith of Israel and sharing in God's special covenant with man.
- The student should, as a Catholic believer, have a special appreciation for all those who with him profess a belief in Jesus as Son of God made man, and who join in various Christian Communities to respond to God in Christ.
- The student should have a strong sense of his own Catholic identity in the context of the religious and secular pluralism in which he finds himself as a citizen of the world in the twentieth century.
- The student should base his Catholic sense of identity on a personal conviction that God wishes him to respond to Himself in Christ in the context of the Catholic community, a community with a long and rich heritage encompassing message, community and service, a community with its legacy of spirituality, liturgical response, history, apostolic record, living experience of God, a community which he feels to be the authentic Church of Christ.

The student, as Catholic believer, accepts himself as one belonging to the Church of Christ. He recognizes, however, that others, members and Churches, also believe themselves to belong to the Church of Christ.

The student, as Catholic believer, recognizes that he best works toward the unity desired by Jesus, in living up to his vision of Jesus in the context of the Catholic community, and realizes that if all Christian communities so do, in the providence of God, and through the efforts of all Christians, the rifts that were historically caused by non-living up to the ideals of Jesus, will be healed, and oneness will again be part of the Christian experience.

The student as Catholic believer will recognize and assume his responsibility to manage his life in accord with the lived experience of Jesus in the context of the Catholic community, recognizing that one "preaches the gospel" with one's life rather than with one's words.

The student as Catholic believer further derives his sense of identity and his understanding of his relationship with others professing religious or secular understandings of life from his appreciation of Jesus concept of Church.

The student will have a profound appreciation for Church as the community of those who take the resurrection seriously and make it the base for their whole sense of values their whole perspective on life.

The student will recognize Church as leaven community: As leaven represents a small quantity in the mass that is the dough, as leaven is qualitatively different from the mass, as leaven is present directly within the mass of dough, and as leaven has as its function not necessarily the production of more leaven but that of precipitating growth, the student sees Church as:

1. Qualitatively different
2. Directly among men
3. By its life-style precipitating among all men a sense of awareness of God's presence and his love.

The student should as Catholic believer recognize that he preaches the Gospel to all men to the degree that his life bespeaks the ideals and values of Jesus, that he is called to continue salvation history and the life-work of Jesus in this fashion.

2372 Lalemant Road  
University Heights, Ohio 44118  
January 29, 1976

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum  
165 East 56th Street  
New York, New York 10022

Dear Rabbi Tanenbaum,

In working on publicity for our Gesu Interfaith Series, we have discovered a local television show may be interested in having our speakers as guests for interviews.

The show is "Morning Exchange," broadcast live between 8 and 10 a.m. Mondays through Fridays over Channel 5 WEWS. Guests on the show are not paid fees but expenses are covered.

Obviously no commitments have been made but we are anxious to know how you react to this. Would you be willing to be interviewed? Would you be able to come to Cleveland on March 23 in order to make the 8 a.m. broadcast time?

For our purposes, an appearance by you on March 24, the morning of your lecture to us, would be marvelous publicity. But more importantly than this, it would be an opportunity to reach a large number of people with whom we have no other contact and perhaps awaken them to the inherent brotherhood of America.

Sincerely,

*Mary Lasko*

Mary Lasko (Mrs. Edward J.)



## THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

**date** February 11, 1976  
**to** Marc Tanenbaum  
**from** Lillian Alexander  
**subject** Cleveland - March 24

The luncheon meeting which you were good enough to agree to do in Cleveland on March 24 prior to your evening lecture there, ran into some conflicting plans. So, regretfully for them, it will not be held.

Rabbi Roth at Park Synagogue is particularly sorry that the luncheon will not take place.

But from your point of view, it will give you one slightly less hectic day. And I appreciated very much your willingness to do it.



February 10, 1976

Heidi Winer - Cleveland Office secretary

Lillian Alexander

Rabbi Tanenbaum's trip to Cleveland  
March 24, 1976

This will confirm our phone conversation today.

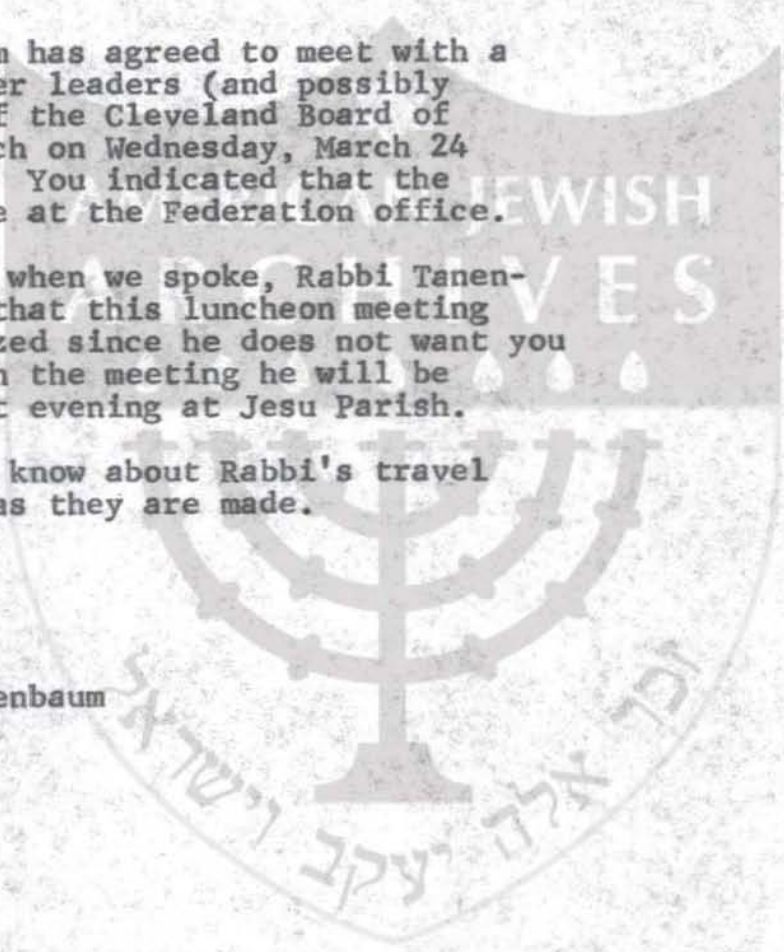
Rabbi Tanenbaum has agreed to meet with a group of chapter leaders (and possibly some members of the Cleveland Board of Rabbis) at lunch on Wednesday, March 24 at 12:00 noon. You indicated that the meeting will be at the Federation office.

As I mentioned when we spoke, Rabbi Tanenbaum requests that this luncheon meeting not be publicized since he does not want you to compete with the meeting he will be addressing that evening at Jesu Parish.

I will let you know about Rabbi's travel plans as soon as they are made.

Regards.

✓ cc: Rabbi Tanenbaum



19th century. At one time or another, one or another of them argued for

- adult manhood suffrage,
- elimination of the rotten borough system and the substitution of regular units of representation systematically related to the distribution of population,
- the binding of representatives to their constituencies by residential requirements and by instructions,
- alterations in the definition of peditious libel so as to permit full freedom of the press to criticize government, and
- the total withdrawal of government control over the practice of religion.

In summary, the 17th century radicals provided a harmonizing force for the other, discordant elements in the political and social thought of the revolutionary generation. Within the framework of these ideas, enlightenment abstractions and common law precedents, covenant theology and classical analogy - Locke and Abraham, Brutus and Coke - could all be brought together into a comprehensive theory of politics. It was in terms of this pattern of ideas and attitudes - originating in the English civil war and carried forward with additions and modifications not on the surface of English political life but in its undercurrents stirred by doctrinaire liberations, disaffected politicians, and religious dissenters - that the colonists responded to the new regulations imposed by England on her American Colonies after 1763.

*NYG folder  
(3/24)*

January 28, 1976

Mrs. J. R. Noetzel  
Chairman, Spiritual Development  
Gesu Parish Council  
Gesu Church  
2470 Miramar Boulevard,  
University Heights  
Cleveland, Ohio 44118

Dear Mrs. Noetzel,

Thank you for your recent letter in which you outline the purpose of your Lenten Series for 1976. I am happy to confirm my acceptance of your kind invitation and the terms outlined in your December 10th letter.

The topic that I would suggest would be something like, "The American Bicentennial: Moral Challenges to Jews and Christians."

As for the quotation, I would think that the section beginning with Leviticus 25:10 would make for a good spiritual lesson preliminary to my remarks.

I look forward with much pleasure to visiting with you on March 24th.

With warmest good wishes, I am,

Faithfully yours,

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum  
National Director  
Interreligious Affairs

MHT:RPR

Enclosure

## GESU CHURCH

2470 Miramar Boulevard  
University Heights  
Cleveland, Ohio 44118

December 10, 1975

Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum  
165 E. 56th Street  
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Rabbi Tanenbaum:

We are delighted that you have agreed to speak in our Lenten Series for 1976, entitled "Spiritual Challenges of '76." We thought that this would allow for the One Nation Under God concept and yet give emphasis to today's concerns for integrity, personal commitment and world wide unity within diversity.

Your presentation is set for Wednesday, March 24, at 8 p.m. in our church. We are prepared to offer you an honorarium of \$350.00 which is to include your travel. It will be of help to us if you will let us know when your travel arrangements are completed as we will be happy to meet you and return you to the airport. We will need some biographical information and a black and white glossy for our publicity.

We suggest that you select a scriptural quotation that would help us set the tone for your address. It will be read as a preface to your remarks. If you can give us a more specific title under which you would like to approach the general title, "Spiritual Challenges of '76," please do so.

Rev. James Hennesey, S.J., President of the Jesuit School of Theology cooperating with Chicago University, and tentatively, Dr. Van Harvey of the University of Pennsylvania will complete the ecumenical approach to this year's series. We feel that this area of concern is most important in a year which is our national bicentennial and our parish golden anniversary.

Please let me know if I can be of any help or if there are questions about your arrangements. We hope that this coming year will bring the peace and understanding we are seeking.

With best wishes,

*Frances Noetzel*  
Mrs. J.R. Noetzel  
Chairman, Spiritual Development  
Gesu Parish Council

4152 Carroll Blvd.  
Cleveland, O. 44118

cc: Seymour Brief  
American Jewish Committee

on tape

3/24/76

932-0618

K

Please  
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to NY

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memorandum

**THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE**

**date** January 12, 1975  
**to** Lillian Alexander  
**from** Seymour Brief  
**subject** Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum

As you know, Marc Tanenbaum is scheduled to be the guest speaker at a major Catholic community-wide program celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the major East Side Cleveland Parish, called Gesu. At the same time, I have received a phone call from Rabbi Max Roth of Park Synagogue, a member of AJC, a good friend, and a fine human being, asking if Marc could stay over to the evening of March 25th for a major Jewish community-wide program at Park Synagogue.

Park Synagogue is one of the three largest conservative congregations in the United States and they would be delighted and thrilled to have Marc as their guest speaker on Ecumenism, on the night of March 25th. This would be done in cooperation with the American Jewish Committee, Cleveland Chapter, and would be a real coup for us with Park Synagogue.

I do hope it would be possible to work this out with Marc. Please let me know just as soon as possible since Rabbi Roth is looking forward to this kind of program planning and for AJC input into the synagogue. This synagogue has over 2,500 family members. I hope we will be able to see this come to fruition even in my absence.

Best wishes.

SB:hmw

