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

Series G: Speaking Engagements. 1975-1992

Box 106, Folder 28, College of Mt. St. Joseph [Cincinnati, Ohio].
14-15 June 1976.



F - Mt St Joseph

VI ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION — 1976

College of Mount St. Joseph, Cincinnati, Ohio

THEME: The Contribution of Religions to American
Civilisation: A Retrospect and a Forecast



Sunday, June 13, 8:00 p.m. — Keynote Address — Rev. Joseph Goetz

MONDAY, JUNE 14

8:30 a.m.	St. Paul's Doctrine on Natural and Ecclesial Man	Rev. B. Ahern, C.P.
10:00	The National Yet to Be	Dr. B. Garrison
11:15	From Nothing to Something	Rev. J. Champlin
12:30 p.m.	Moral Formation of the Young as One of the Church's Civilizing Functions	Rev. J. DiGiacomo, S.J.
2:00	Theological Reflections on American Cultural Pluralism	Rev. D. Tracy
3:15	Peoples and Religions of America	Dr. Caroline Golab
7:30	The American Bicentennial: Moral Challenge to Christians and Jews	Rabbi M. Tanenbaum
	Opening Liturgy — principal Celebrant — Bishop Daniel Pilarczyk	

TUESDAY, JUNE 15

8:30 a.m.	Religious Values in an Age of Violence	Rabbi Tanenbaum
10:00	American Theology and The Christian Tradition I	Dr. Pelikan
11:15	Prayer, Growth, Touch	Father Champlin
12:30 p.m.	New Challenges in the Field of Moral Education	Father DiGiacomo
2:00	Catholic Theology and the Analogical Imagination on Social Justice in the U.S.	Father Tracy
3:15	American Theology II	Dr. Pelikan
7:30	American a Planetary People	Dr. M. Novak

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16

8:30 a.m.	Christ the Lord and the Head of the Church	Father Ahern
10:00	American, Come of Age	Rosemary Haughton
11:15	Art and Mysticism	Dr. Karen Novak
12:30	Religion and the Black Community	Bishop Joseph Howze
2:00	The Urban Parish — A Place Where We Belonged	Dr. Mary J. Durkin
3:15	Sports as Religion	Dr. M. Novak
4:30	Teresa of Avila & Women Saints as Role Models for Feminists	Dr. Karen Novak
7:30	1976 America: Advertising and the Religious Myths	Rev. R. Hater

THURSDAY, JUNE 17

8:30 a.m.	The future of Christianity in the Communications Age	Rev. J. Hardon, S.J.
10:00	Christianity and Civil Religions	Dr. J. Hitchcock
11:15	Educating our Children for Moral Creativity and Responsibility	Dr. Francoise Darcy-Berube
12:30	The Teenager's Quest	Mary R. Newland
2:00	Religion and the American for Which We Hope	Rev. R. Neuhaus
3:15	The Suburban Woman—Her changing Role in the Church	Dr. Durkin
7:30	Diversity, Yes, But Unity, Too	Dr. Arthur Mann

FRIDAY, JUNE 18

8:30 a.m.	The Church in the World of Paul and Today	Father Ahern
10:00	The Catholic Contribution to American Democracy in the Past and in the Future (2 lectures)	Dr. David O'Brien
11:15	Ethnics and Religion in America I	Msgr. Geno Baroni
3:15	The Future of Christianity in America	Dr. Hitchcock
7:30	Ethnics and Religion in America II	Msgr. Baroni

FEES: Registration Fee \$10 — Board and Room on Campus \$65 — TUITION: Non-Credit, \$30; 2 Undergrad.
Cr. \$60; 2 Graduate Cr. \$70. Special rates for 10 or more registering from one place at the same time.
For further information, write: Religious Education Institute,
College of Mount St. Joseph (Cincinnati), Mount St. Joseph, Ohio 45051

Bicentennial Misgivings Heard at Mount Institute

By Judy Ball

Approximately 350 religious educators from all parts of the United States gathered at the College of Mt. St. Joseph last week to look at the contributions religion has made to American civilization in the past 200 years and to focus on what it might accomplish in the nation's third century.

The college's sixth Ecumenical Institute on Religious Education, under the direction of Father Angelo della Picca, drew a smaller crowd than in past years. But those who did attend heard experts in Scripture, ethnicity, ecumenism, religious education, history and theology.

Among the speakers was Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, who characterized the American bicentennial as an "uncomfortable theme" for many people. It is "a moment in the life of this nation which could have, should have, which still may be an occasion for reflection, for recommitment to something profound," he said. Instead, noted the national director of inter-religious affairs for the American Jewish Committee, Americans have allowed the bicentennial to be associated with plastic liberty bells and even red, white and blue skull caps.

'Sense of Malaise'

Observing that there is a greater sense of urgency about the need to reflect on the meaning of America "than in almost any time in the past," Rabbi Tanenbaum pointed to a "sense of malaise in the American spirit" aggravated, if not caused, by such painful realities as Vietnam, the Pentagon Papers, Watergate, allegations against the FBI, the CIA and the IRS, cheating at West Point and, in the religious sphere, the revelation of misused funds by the Pallottine Fathers.

It is therefore not surprising, Rabbi Tanenbaum said, that polls show that one of the greatest concerns of Americans is the need for public morality.

The founding fathers and mothers of this nation were committed to morality and public virtue, he said, observing that it was felt free government could not exist without such qualities. While the bicentennial should be a period of celebration, the rabbi said, it should also be a moment in which Americans "reflect on that critical period when, on the eve of the Revolution, the country was preoccupied with the importance of moral qualities in its government and in its people."

A focus on the future of Christianity in America was the task of historian Dr. James Hitchcock of St. Louis university. While he described himself as a "qualified

pessimist" about the future of Christianity, Dr. Hitchcock nevertheless noted that the course of the future can still be influenced.

'Counterfeit' Signs

Although acknowledging that there has been something of a "religious revival" in society over the past five years (including the "Jesus freaks," the students of astrology and the occult, the new followers of Eastern religions), he expressed the opinion that it is a revival that represents, for the most part, "a counterfeit of religion."

At the same time, he said, it points to the fact that there is a religious impulse in society, "a desire to find religious meaning." Noting that it is something like a sexual urge that is difficult to suppress, Dr. Hitchcock said that this impulse must find expression, whether through conventional means or through more "offbeat" channels like the occult.

Looking to the future, he predicted the emergence of what he called the "New Epicureanism," a way of life that will be based on the assumption that, while all material wants can be gratified in society, it is the spiritual frontiers of man and his spiritual needs which are to be explored and met. Self-fulfillment and self-understanding will be accentuated however, more than relationship with God, he said.

In such a scheme, said Dr. Hitchcock, God is seen not so much as distinct from His creatures but as just another aspect or dimension of human existence.

Future Risks

He also predicted that because Christianity today is losing its vitality (too often standing for

"nothing clear and consistent") it will increasingly risk being manipulated and controlled. Although it has historically resisted losing its identity, he said, there is a "growing tendency by which a new syncretic world religion is being brought into existence."

But he expressed the opinion that Christianity should resist becoming part of a "religious stew."

"If Christianity has any presence that it can bring to the society of the 21st century," he said, "it will be in terms of its own authentic self," even if that means being "in tension and conflict with the prevailing culture around it."

Father James DiGiacomo, S.J., chairman of the religious studies department at Fordham Preparatory school in Brooklyn, spoke of the Church's historical role as a

The Society of Distinguished

Distinguished

model government program. 1,300 other high schoolers in the Peck, who are participating with Michael Brugeman and Robert They are Michael Fasser, (27) at Ohio University in Athens. Buckeye Boys State (June 19 to participating in the 31st annual Three Fenwick students are

To Athens

Thalen, Ohio State university. ersity of Dayton; Michael J. University; Mark G. Weber, Uni- Presidential scholarship, Xavier tati; Steven W. Wagner, I cholarship, University of Cin- David A. Volker, Voorheis honor in Cincinnati Milacron scholarship; Scholarship; Nicholas J. Ventre,



COLLEGE OF MOUNT ST. JOSEPH ON THE OHIO

April 13, 1976

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum
The American Jewish Committee
165 E. 56th Street
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Marc,

Thank you for your letter of April 9 and for the topics which you have submitted. They sound fine!

I am glad you can arrange to be here for the 14th and 15th. Would it be possible for you to take the 2:00 p.m. session on the 14th instead of the one that evening? This would then give you one lecture at 2:00 on the 14th and the other at 8:30 a.m. on the 15th. I hope this will not inconvenience you in any way.

If you wish, you could just jot a note at the bottom of this letter and return it to me so I will know whether or not this change in schedule is acceptable.

With good wishes and a prayerful remembrance of you and your important work, I am

Sincerely yours,

Rev. Angelo A. della Picca

AdP/sae

Mitzfelder

April 9, 1976

Rev. Angelo A. della Picca
College of Mount St. Joseph on the Ohio
Mount St. Joseph, Ohio 45051

My dear Angelo

Thank you for your recent letter. My travel schedule has delayed my responding to you before now.

I find that I can arrange to be with you on the 14th and 15th so let's keep it that way.

As for lecture Topics:

The American Bicentennial: Moral Challenge to
Christians and Jews.

Religious Values in and Age of Violence.

I hope these meet with your approval.

With warmest personal good wishes for a joyous and, above all,
a peaceful Holy Season.

Cordially as ever,

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum
National Director
Interreligious Affairs

MHT:RPR



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COLLEGE OF MOUNT ST. JOSEPH ON THE OHIO

March 1, 1976

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum
National Director, Interreligious Affairs
The American Jewish Committee
165 E. 56 Street
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Marc,

Your letter of February 26 came today. I can imagine what a heavy schedule of travel you have, and I sympathize with you. I'm sure it must be exhausting at times.

In regard to the dates for your lectures here, I find that it is impossible for us to make a change in order to schedule you on the 16th and 17th. Therefore, since you said that, if necessary, you could accommodate yourself to the original schedule of the 14th and 15th, I will appreciate it very much if you will do so, and plan to be here on those days.

Again, my thanks and good wishes.

Sincerely yours,

Angelo

Rev. Angelo A. della Picca

AdP/sae

P.S. We still need your specific lecture topics.

Hitzfelder

February 26, 1976

Rev. Angelo A. della Picca
College of Mount St. Joseph on the Ohio
Mount Saint Joseph, Ohio 45051

Dear Angelo,

Thank you for your recent good letter. My delay in responding grows simply out of a terribly heavy schedule of travel and lecturing during recent weeks.

The date for my lectures would be more convenient for me if it could be June 16th and 17th. I could make the June 14th and 15th date if necessary. Do let me know if there is still time to set it up for the 16th and 17th as first choice. Otherwise, I will accommodate myself accordingly.

Also, enclosed is a revised biographical sketch.

With warmest personal good wishes, I am

Cordially as ever,

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum
National Director
Interreligious Affairs

MHT:RPR

Enclosure



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COLLEGE OF MOUNT ST. JOSEPH ON THE OHIO

October 23, 1975

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum
The American Jewish Committee
165 E. 56th St.
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Marc,

Thank you for your prompt response to my recent letter. Of course I am delighted to have your confirmation of acceptance for our 1976 Institute.

In scheduling, we will keep in mind that June 14 and 15 are best for you. We expect to have a definite plan worked out by the first week of December and will be able to give you further details at that time.

I can appreciate how very busy you must be with your many and varied commitments, and I have the greatest admiration for your work and the dedicated spirit you bring to it.

Thank you for your good wishes and prayers. They are more than appreciated.

Gratefully yours,

Rev. Angelo A. della Picca

AdP/sae

October 20, 1975

Rev. Angelo A. della Picca
College of Mount St. Joseph on the Ohio
Mount St. Joseph, Ohio 45051

My dear Angelo,

Thank you very much for your thoughtful letter of October 7th.

I do recall that I agreed to accept your kind invitation to speak at your 1976 Institute on the theme that you propose.

This will confirm my acceptance of your invitation. At the moment it appears that the best days for me are June 14th and 15th. It would help me if you let me know whether you would want me to deliver one or two lectures so that I can work out my calendar accordingly.

Things have been going well, very busy, sometimes satisfying, sometimes frustrating. But that is our common human condition. I think of you often and pray for the success of your work and for your own good health and continued strength.

Cordially as ever,

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum
National Director
Interreligious Affairs

MHT:RPR



on tape

COLLEGE OF MOUNT ST. JOSEPH ON THE OHIO

October 7, 1975

Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum
The American Jewish Committee
165 E. 56th St.
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Rabbi Tanenbaum,

When you were here in June we spoke of the 1976 Institute and our projected theme - The Contribution of Religions to the American Civilisation: A Retrospect and a Forecast. The dates next summer will be June 14 to 19.

We would very much like to have you return to our Institute in 1976 and hope you will find it possible to be with us. I will appreciate it if you will let me know the day or days you will be available during the week of June 14, and also suggested topics. We can then work out details later.

I hope all has been going well for you and I send best wishes for you and your important work.

Sincerely yours,

Rev. Angelo A. della Picca

AdP/sae

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Mount Institute to Focus On Religions in America

The contribution of religions to American civilization will be the theme of the sixth Ecumenical Institute on Religious Education to be held June 13-18 at the College of Mt. St. Joseph.

Keynote speaker will be Father Joseph W. Goetz, associate dean of Mt. St. Mary seminary, Norwood. Father Goetz, who has a doctorate in philosophy from Cambridge university, England, will speak on the theme, which institute officials said is to include "a retrospect and a forecast."

Among the score of speakers who will address institute participants will be Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Howze of Natchez-Jackson, Miss., one of the three black Catholic bishops in the U.S. He will discuss religion in America and the Black community.

Other speakers whose subjects have been announced include:

Father Robert J. Hater, director of religious education of the Cincinnati archdiocese, on "1976 America: Advertising and Religious Myths."

Dr. Jaroslav Pelikan, Lutheran theologian and Yale university professor, "American Theology and the Christian Tradition."

Father Barnabas Ahern, C.P., Scripture scholar and member of Pope Paul's Theological Commission, who will speak on several Scripture-related subjects.

Father Joseph Champlin, Fulton (N.Y.) and Know Your Faith writer, "From Nothing to Something: Prayer, Growth, Touch."

Also addressing institute participants will be Monsignor Geno Baroni of the National Center for Urban Ethnic Affairs; Dr. Fran-

coise Darcy-Berube of the University of Montreal; Dr. Benjamin Garrison of the Wesley Foundation at the University of Illinois; Father James DiGiacomo, S.J., of Fordham university; Dr. Mary Jule Durkin, Chicago author and teacher; Father John Hardon, S.J., New York lecturer and author; Mrs. Mary Reed Newland, author and religious education coordinator; Dr. Michael Novak, authority on ethnic affairs, and his wife, Karen Novak, author and lecturer; and Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, American Jewish Committee official.

Bishop Daniel E. Pilarczyk, Cincinnati archdiocesan vicar for education, will celebrate the open-

ing liturgy on Monday, June 14.

Father Angelo della Picca, chairman of the Mt. St. Joseph college theology department and director of the institute, said special arrangements would be made "as a service to religious educators" in the tri-state (Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky) area. "If 10 or more persons from one parish or school register at the same time, the \$10 registration fee will be waived and non-credit tuition will be reduced from \$30 to \$25," he said.

Tuition for two undergraduate credits will be \$60 and for two graduate credits, \$70. Board and room will be \$65.



Father Goetz



Bishop Howze

Cincinnati Catholic Telegraph

3/12/76

✓ - Terman, Tanenbaum