



NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

13TH NATIONAL WORKSHOP SET ON CHRISTIAN-JEWISH RELATIONS

WASHINGTON—"Ethnicity, Nationalism and Religion" will be the theme of the 13th National Workshop on Christian-Jewish Relations. More than 1,000 persons are expected to attend the workshop which will be held at the Hilton Hotel in Pittsburgh, November 8-11.

Among participants will be Bishop Donald W. Wuerl of Pittsburgh, who will lead a workshop on interpretation of Scriptural passages, and Father J. Bryan Hehir, pastor of St. Paul's church in Cambridge, Mass. and Catholic Chaplain at Harvard, who will be the principal speaker at a plenary session on "Religion and Patriotism."

International leaders such as Bronislaw Geremek of Poland, Avrum Burg of Israel's ruling Labor Party, the Metropolitan Vassilios of Caesaria and Father Marcel Dubois, O.P., of Jerusalem will join national figures including Dr. James Forbes, Senior Minister at Riverside Church in New York, Dr. Edith Wyschogrod, Mrs. Gillian Martin Sorensen, A.M.E. Zion's Bishop Cecil Bishop, and Rabbi A. James Rudin of the American Jewish Committee.

Churches and synagogues throughout the country have joined forces to hold the workshop, the oldest and most prestigious interfaith event in North America. Held approximately every 18 months, the workshop attracts scholars, theologians and religious leaders from around the world.

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UNITED STATES CATHOLIC CONFERENCE
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2/13th National Workshop

Other plenary sessions will probe such topics as "God Bless Our Native Land-The Interaction Between Religion and National Identity"; "The Use and Abuse of Scripture in Shaping Religious/Political Ideologies"; "Religion and Personhood"; and "Middle East: A Christian/Jewish Focus."

National sponsors for the workshop include American Jewish Committee, American Jewish Congress, Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, Episcopal Diocesan Ecumenical Officers, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Federation of Reconstructionist Congregations and Havurot, Interfaith Witness Department-Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, National Association of Diocesan Ecumenical Officers, National Conference of Catholic Bishops' Secretariat for Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations, National Conference of Christians and Jews, National Council of Churches' Office of Christian-Jewish Relations, Pennsylvania Council of Churches, Union of American Hebrew Congregations, United Synagogue of America.

In addition to the plenary sessions, the national workshop will include nearly 50 topical seminars and symposia. Scholars and religious leaders will conduct small group sessions on religious and social issues ranging from the role of women in faith communities to pastoral networking-AIDS as a case study.

The National Chairperson for the Pittsburgh workshop is Dr. Eugene J. Fisher, Director of Catholic-Jewish Relations for the NCCB.

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