



NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SOUTHERN BAPTIST/ROMAN CATHOLIC GROUP ISSUES ENVIRONMENT BROCHURE

WASHINGTON--The Southern Baptist/Roman Catholic Conversations in the United States has issued a brochure: **ENVIRONMENT, A SOUTHERN BAPTIST AND ROMAN CATHOLIC PERSPECTIVE**. The publication was announced at the Feb. 26-28 meeting here. This will be the first in a series, **BIBLICAL CHALLENGES, ROMAN CATHOLIC AND SOUTHERN BAPTIST PERSPECTIVES**. Topics to be covered in future conversations and brochures include: Poverty, Racism, Healing and Life issues.

This project is the result of three annual meetings of the Conversation. It is expected that four more brochures will be produced for use in congregations and parishes. The brochures will be published by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's Interfaith Witness Department and Our Sunday Visitor Publications.

The series of conversations was preceded by ten years of dialogues between the two church bodies, the two largest Christian communities in the United States. These conversations are sponsored by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's Interfaith Witness Department and the Bishops' Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs (BCEIA) of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. The group producing the brochures consists of pastors, laity and scholars from the two church bodies.

It is the hope of the members of the conversations that the benefit of a common perspective on these issues will encourage others. Congregations of both church bodies are urged to explore to the fullest extent possible all that they share in common on

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important biblical issues facing Christians as these issues impinge on everyday life.

Bishop James Niedergeses, emeritus bishop of Nashville, celebrated and preached at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception at which the members of the conversation were guests.

Further information is available from Brother Jeffrey Gros, FSC, secretariat of the BCEIA, 202-541-3020, and Rev. Gary Leazer, Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's Department of Interfaith Witness (404-898-7469).

Brochures may be purchased from Our Sunday Visitor Publishing, Our Sunday Visitor, Inc., Huntington, IN 46750.

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