

American Catholic Press

Twenty-sixth Annual Benefit

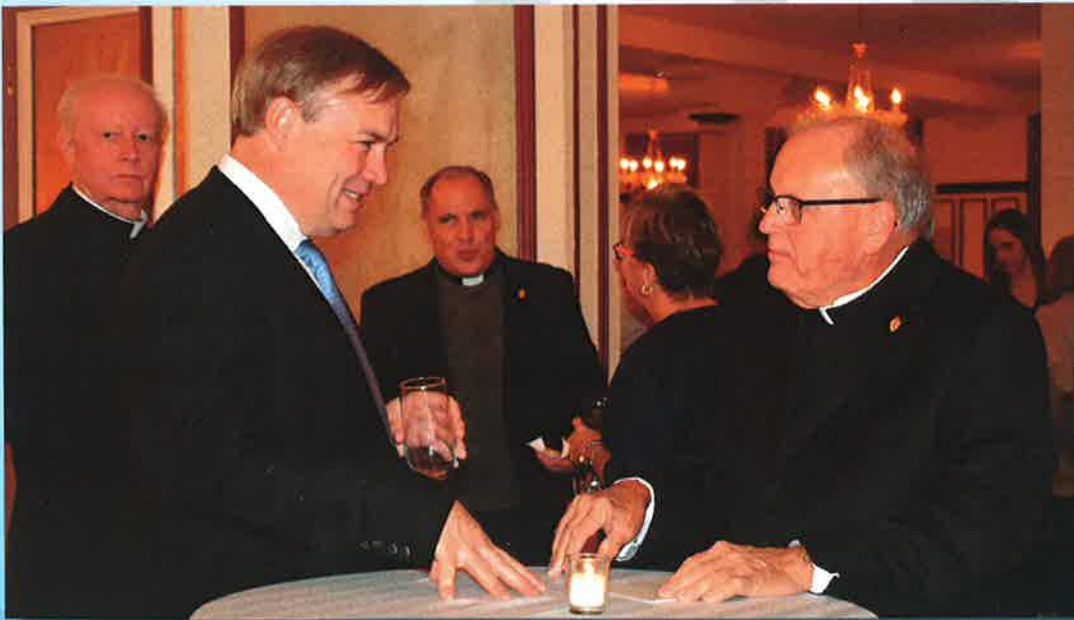
2
0
1
9



Patrick Coleman, receiving the Gratiam Dei Award. The eponymous Coleman Group has saved millions of dollars for parishes, schools, and other organizations.



Sue Barrett of Aid for Women, receiving the Henry Hyde Award. She is the Executive Director.



Msgr. John Pollard, Patrick Coleman, Father Jason Malave, and Msgr. Pat Pollard. Msgr. John Pollard is the pastor of Queen of All Saints. Father Malave is in charge of Cardinal Cupich's "Renew My Church" program. This work involves consolidation and renewal of local church communities.

G*ratiam Dei*, "the grace of God." In an Irish Catholic family, this is how we often swore. "Patrick Joseph Coleman, it is only by the grace of God that you are able to tie your own shoes." It could be followed by "Jesus, Mary and Joseph." Growing up, we initially thought that phrase referred to the Trinity. "Patrick, John, Kevin, Brian, Kathleen, ... Jesus, Mary and Joseph! Is that your definition of a clean room?"

What is Grace? I have been reflecting on this often, as I have thought of today's recognition. And I would like to begin with a short story about the present, the past, and the future. A few weeks ago, I stood before another group and said that all stories must begin with "once upon a time."

THE PRESENT

And so we begin. Once upon a time, this time, this moment, in the present, I can tell you that I miss my friend Joe who left us only a few weeks ago. I miss my father who left us nine months ago. And I miss my brother John who left us earlier. It seems like yesterday. In the present, I carry their Grace with me. In the present, I carry the gratitude of Father Gilligan for his work; the work of the parishes and schools we are fortunate enough to help everyday; and the Grace of family, friends, and team members. These are the people who give to life happiness, challenge, and meaning.

Who am I now? I am a parent, a husband, a brother, a son, a friend, a student, and a child of God. I love being a parent and give thanks everyday for being a father to my son Daniel. I love being a friend to others and experience their joys and walk with them in their struggles. And I love learning. I always have. I was the weird kid who wanted to go to summer school. I am the odd adult who works out to books rather than music. I am someone who knows that our world is a mystery filled with Grace which must be explored.

I am proud that we are a successful firm, but I'm even prouder of our ability to make a real difference in supporting the mission of our parishes and schools. I love seeing and learning from so many of you in your

communities. It is this love, this collaboration, this communication, and this learning where I experience Grace.

THE PAST

My past is a Grace supported by living saints, many of you who are here. But my past is also supported by my remembered saints. Too many have been called home to heaven. I have to say I have often struggled with Lenten litanies. But at times, those names come alive. They become the remembered lives of those who shared their Grace with me. In this way, the litany comes alive.

LITANY OF SAINTS

Joseph Patrick Jekot

Pray for us

John Patrick Coleman

Pray for us

John O'Brien Coleman

Pray for us

Cardinal Francis George

Father Andy McDonough

Msgr. Frank Cimarrusti

Brother Louis Roncalli

Msgr. Leo Mahon

Robert Mahoney

Father Jack Hotchkin

Father Louis Dunleavy

Cardinal Joseph Bernardin

Bill O'Connell, Sr.

Dan Hartnett

Wallace J. O'Brien

Marguerite O'Brien

Annie Coleman

Pray for Us

It is these saints who have shown me Grace. It is these saints of the past who walk with me today and will walk with me tomorrow in Grace.

THE FUTURE:

THE FIVE PILLARS OF GRACE

Potential Grace for me is defined by five pillars. I sometimes feel that sometimes our Church leaders confuse and overcomplicate these pillars. When we do that, we argue about something that is less important. When we do that, we miss the chance to truly celebrate the Grace which is sacramentally present in the world.

I am not a theologian, but I will play one for two minutes. These five pillars of Grace are Loving, Listening, Sharing, Inviting, and Engaging.

LOVING: OUR FIRST PILLAR

What is the greatest commandment? Loving. This is and will always be our first pillar.

Loving—The greatest commandment

LISTENING: OUR SECOND PILLAR

What is it that we do in every eucharistic celebration? We listen to the Word. It's also how we need to build all relationships. No relationship was ever successfully built without listening.

Listening—Listen to the Word

SHARING: OUR THIRD PILLAR

When we do talk, we need to share our truth. Those things that are most vital. Those things which create greater transparency.

For many in our Church today, people want to hear that we acknowledge their pain and loss, that we have failed many times to love and protect them, that we will be more honest, passionate, and caring lovers and leaders.

Sharing—Break open the Word with our Truth

INVITING: OUR FOURTH PILLAR

We want to be invited as we are in the Mass at the preparation of the gifts. We are invited to bring ourselves into the Eucharist. We want to be invited into a relationship. The wonderful thing about a relationship is that we may be rejected, but we also may be accepted.

Inviting—Allowing others to walk with us

ENGAGING: OUR FIFTH PILLAR

We call others to engage their gifts in a life of lived Grace, a life of shared discipleship, a life of love and joy but also a life of struggle and suffering.

Engaging—Others to love and believe with us

What may be seemingly strange about these five pillars is that they must be remembered and repeated daily. If not, their foundation gives way quickly. It is the same in any relationship. If we stop loving and listening and sharing, our relationships do not grow.

But when we Love, Listen, Share, Invite, and Engage, we strengthen the pillars of Grace.

What is Grace? In the present, it is the life of happiness, challenge, and meaning that I share with you as family and friends. In the past, it is a litany of saints, I call to memory, I call for aid, and I call for solace. In the future, it is the potential Grace marked by the five pillars of Loving, Listening, Sharing, Inviting, and Engaging.

Grace is a gift of the Holy Spirit. It is an outpouring of love between the Father and Son which cannot be contained but must flow over into the world. It is relationships which must always reach out to another. May we experience and share that love. Grace is our present, our past, and our future. *Gratiam Dei in aeternum cantabo.* "Forever I will sing of the grace of God."

—Patrick Coleman's Acceptance Speech



Patrick Coleman, friends, and family.

What is American Catholic Press?

The American Catholic Press (ACP) was incorporated in 1972 as a not-for-profit corporation of the State of Illinois. Its purpose is to promote the good of the liturgy, academic research and instruction, and the spread of Christian culture.

This ministry is especially carried out through the publications of the American Catholic Press. Its periodicals include *Diocesan Dialogue* (for communication personnel in Catholic dioceses); *Parish Liturgy* magazine (for those who plan the liturgy in parishes); and the *Leaflet Missal* prayerbook, with Sunday and weekday Masses, hymns and Psalms. Books include *How to Prepare Mass* and *Singing the Psalms*. Hymnals include *The Johannine Hymnal*, first published in 1965, before incorporation, the *Leaflet Missal Music Issue* (1980), and the *American Catholic Hymnbook* (1992).

The *Leaflet Missal* prayerbook is used in parishes for regular worship and by individuals, for use at home. Sixteen dioceses have sponsored the *Leaflet Missal* prayerbook, for the use of homebound people who are unable to go to church on Sundays.

The publications of the American Catholic Press serve to promote the liturgical renewal of the Latin Rite of the Catholic Church, especially in terms of good texts for hymns and Psalms. These texts are intended to serve as genuine prayer on the part of the congregation, in accord with the official books of the Latin Church and the theology that is part of her tradition.

What is the Gratiam Dei Award?

The Gratiam Dei Award is recognition for important and outstanding service to American Catholic Press, the liturgy of the Catholic Church, or the common good.

The name of the Award is derived from the motto of American Catholic Press, *Gratiam Dei in aeternum cantabo*, a paraphrase of the first verse of Psalm 89. The phrase is translated "Forever I will sing of the grace of God."

What is the Henry Hyde Award?

The late congressman, Honorable Henry Hyde, was chairman of the House Judiciary Committee. He is remembered for his eloquent defense of the cause of human life; that includes unborn children as well as homebound seniors. This present honor is named in his memory. The Henry Hyde Award is conferred on those who defend human life, who promote peace among people, who teach respect and justice for all human beings.



American Catholic Press

16565 State Street, South Holland, Illinois 60473

Phone: (708) 331-5485 Fax: (708) 331-5484 Email: acp@acpress.org www.acpress.org

Leaflet Missal® & *Parish Liturgy*® are registered trademarks of American Catholic Press.