

## Pope raised life issues with president

Thomas C. Fox | Jul. 10, 2009 NCR Today

NCR Senior Correspondent [John L. Allen Jr. reports](#): [1]

When President Barack Obama came calling on Pope Benedict XVI today, the two men enjoyed a ?truly cordial? encounter, according to a Vatican spokesperson, but at the same time there was no diplomatic silence from the pontiff about their differences over abortion and other ?life issues.?

Not only did Benedict press his pro-life case with his words to the president, but he even found a way to make the point with his gift, offering the president a copy of a recent Vatican document on bioethics. According to a Vatican spokesperson, the pope drew a repetition from Obama of his vow to bring down the actual abortion rate.

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