

Pope on condoms, sex abuse, resignation ... and movie nights

John L. Allen Jr. | Nov. 21, 2010



Pope Benedict XVI places a red hat on U.S. Cardinal Raymond L. Burke during a consistory in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican Nov. 20. The pope created 24 new cardinals. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)

Pope Benedict XVI is famously his own best spin doctor. In the old days, the Vatican would dispatch senior officials to try to calm the waters after the pope said or did something controversial; more recently it's worked the other way, with Benedict himself getting the Vatican back on message after one of his aides, or somebody else in officialdom, has put his foot in his mouth.

Benedict's chops as a teacher and communicator are once again in evidence this week, with release of the new book *Light of the World: The Pope, the Church, and the Signs of the Times*, an interview with German journalist Peter Seewald (published in English by Ignatius Press). Excerpts from the book were published yesterday in *L'Osservatore Romano*, the official Vatican newspaper.

Read the full report: [Pope talks condoms, sex abuse, resignation ... and movie nights](#) [1]

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