

Special Report: The Francis Interview

[1] [1] [1] [1] [1]

NATIONAL CATHOLIC REPORTER OCTOBER 11, 2013 SPECIAL REPORT: THE FRANCIS INTERVIEW 7

Forthright talk

'This church ... is the home of all, not a small chapel'

Continued from Page 1



used to discuss social reform.

Media headlines described Francis' interview with the *Apostolic Publications* as "sensationalist" and "explosive comments" "laden with many words."

Francis approved the text of his interview with leaders, which was conducted in Italian. He has it retranslated and published.

In the interview, Francis directly addressed but human questions such as homosexuality, abortion, and the role of women, not breaking with traditional doctrine, but trying to shift the church's emphasis from condemnation to mercy.

"The church sometimes has locked itself up in worldly things, in small-minded ideas," Francis said. "Members of the church must be open-minded every moment."

He said, "We cannot limit ourselves to human wisdom in abstract, idealistic ways."

This is not possible, I have not spoken much about these things, and was embarrassed for that. But when we speak about these issues, we have to talk about them in a context. The teaching of the church, for that matter, is clear and I am a son of the church, but it is not necessary to talk about these issues all the time."

Francis said the church has no right to "impose spirituality" in the lives of men and women, especially on his own terms. "Who am I to judge?"

Francis said about homosexuality during his Sydney press conference following his trip to Brazil:

As the archbishop of Buenos Aires, Francis said, he married women three days and nights who said they were "really wonderful" because they left the church one day.

"The church does not want to do this," he said.

"This church ... is the home of all, not a small chapel that can hold only a small group of selected people. We must not reduce the home of the universal church to a sort of protective shell to a sort of protective shell," he said.

Francis was forthright speaking with his brother Luigi, he said. "The most serious of the evils that afflict the world these days are poverty, environmental degradation, and the loss of the old. The old need care and compassion, while the young need work and hope but have neither one nor the other and the problems in their lives stem from the same sources. They have been created by the present. You will see how one can live under the weight of the present? Without a memory of the past and without the desire to look ahead to the future by building something, a future, a legacy? Can you go on like that? This, to me, is the most urgent problem that the church is facing."

Continued on Page 8

Mercy for the spiritually poor essential for reform

By JOHN RYAN

Pope Francis shows courage not only in his own appearance to the service of his people, but also in his willingness to speak with critics of his church. He has written an open letter to leading Italian socialist leader Romano Prodi, founder and longtime editor in chief of the major Italian daily newspaper *La Repubblica*. There are not papal interventions, but a friendly exchange of arguments on equal levels.

Among the 12 questions from *La Repubblica* (page 11), the fourth seems to me of particular importance for a church looking for reform. It asks: "How can we move forward?"

Francis's answer is clear: "We must be able to listen to the voices of the poor and the marginalized, and to the voices of the church's members who are suffering."

Francis's answer is clear: "We must be able to listen to the voices of the poor and the marginalized, and to the voices of the church's members who are suffering."

Francis's answer is clear: "We must be able to listen to the voices of the poor and the marginalized, and to the voices of the church's members who are suffering."

Special to the National Catholic Reporter

The National Catholic Reporter October 11, 2013, edition includes a special section featuring reactions to Pope Francis' interview. Contributors include Richard Rohr, Hans Küng, Michelle Gonzalez, Richard Gaillardetz and Chris Lowney, as well as analysis from NCR staff. Additional copies of this edition are available to purchase.

Cost of additional copies:
1 copy: \$3 each
2-9 copies: \$2.50 each
10 or more: \$2 each

Price includes postage to US addresses. Orders shipping to addresses outside the U.S. may be subject to additional postage.

Note: Orders must be prepaid. Shipment of your order will take place once we have received your payment.



Pope Francis arrives to lead his general audience in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican Dec. 12.

SENTENCE ON WOMEN 'INADVERTENTLY DELETED'

In his interview with Pope Francis, America magazine "inadvertently" omitted a sentence from the pope's address about the role of women in the church...

English-translation editor Francis said. Francis was reading to a question from Ignazio Donato, a member of the Italian bishops' conference...

FOR THE FIRST TIME 'MILITARY CENTER'

The Italian order of St. Francis was named after the saint and dedicated to the education of young people...

Francis said St. Francis' order is unique because it is the only order of St. Francis that is dedicated to the education of young people...

Francis said St. Francis' order is unique because it is the only order of St. Francis that is dedicated to the education of young people...

WORK: TEACHING IS HOW TO LIVE

Francis said work is not just a means to an end, but a way of life. He emphasized that teaching is a fundamental part of living...

Francis said work is not just a means to an end, but a way of life. He emphasized that teaching is a fundamental part of living...

Francis said work is not just a means to an end, but a way of life. He emphasized that teaching is a fundamental part of living...

A 'culture of encounter' Francis wishes to release Vatican II's bold vision from captivity

By RICHARD GALEARDI



Pope Francis arrives to lead his general audience in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican Dec. 12.

In the last 50 years we have had five popes, the first four were of the Italian and Spanish tradition...

Francis said that the church needs to be a "culture of encounter" and that it needs to be open to the world...

Francis said that the church needs to be a "culture of encounter" and that it needs to be open to the world...

Francis said that the church needs to be a "culture of encounter" and that it needs to be open to the world...

Francis said that the church needs to be a "culture of encounter" and that it needs to be open to the world...

A promotional box for NCR (National Catholic Reporter) with a subscription offer: 'SUBSCRIBE TODAY! \$10.00 PER YEAR (12 ISSUES)'. It also includes a small image of the NCR magazine cover.

To order by phone, call

Customer Service at 1-800-333-7373 (Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 4 pm, CST).

If paying by credit card, please note that the minimum amount we can charge your card is \$5.

To order by mail, download this printable order form [2] and include with your check or credit card information. (Please make checks payable to National Catholic Reporter.)

For questions, please call 1-800-333-7373 or email support@ncronline.org [3].

Source URL (retrieved on 05/25/2017 - 15:20): https://www.ncronline.org/special-report-francis-interview

Links:

- [1] https://www.addthis.com/bookmark.php?v=250
[2] http://ncrnews.org/NCRsecuredpage/Francis_interview_order-form_NCR.pdf
[3] mailto:support@ncronline.org