

## AHC Press Release

### ***You Shall Be My Witnesses ... (Acts 1:8)*** **Hebrew Catholics and the Mission of the Church** ***Come Share the Joy!***

Many Catholics have heard individual Jews express their gratitude at discovering the Messiah and being led into His Church. Now, in an exercise of their *irrevocable calling* (cf. Rom 11:29), many will come together to share their testimony and witness to God's revelation and mercy.

This conference, sponsored by the Association of Hebrew Catholics (AHC), invites all Catholics to *come share the joy* and join with us in fulfilling our Lord's call to us when He declared: *You Shall Be My Witnesses*.

Our Lord's call is vital and urgent. We are living in a new phase of salvation history, witnessed to by the disappearance of Christendom, the great apostasy from the Catholic faith, the Holocaust, the return of the Jews to their ancestral home, Vatican Council II, the growing and aggressive forces of secularism, the large numbers of Jews coming to faith in Christ, and the reawakening of Islam. In 1976, during his farewell address in New York, Karol Cardinal Wojtyla stated:

“We are now standing in the face of the greatest historical confrontation humanity has gone through. I do not think that wide circles of the American society or wide circles of the Christian community realize this fully. We are now facing the final confrontation between the Church and the anti-Church, of the Gospel versus the anti-Gospel. This confrontation lies within the plans of Divine Providence; it is a trial which the whole Church... must take up.” (*Wall Street Journal*, Nov. 9, 1978)

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #675, states:

“Before Christ's second coming the Church must pass through a final trial that will shake the faith of many believers.”

Elias Friedman, OCD, believed that the time had come when God would once again call the Jews, to work within the Church in support of its mission of evangelization and sanctification, even confronting the forces of the anti-Gospel. And in keeping with God's call to Fr. Friedman for this new phase of salvation history, Father and Andrew Sholl, a survivor of the concentration camps, launched the Association of Hebrew Catholics from Israel in 1979.

In May 2006, prior to the relocation of the AHC to St. Louis, Archbishop Raymond Burke wrote to the President of the AHC:

“The mission of your association responds in a most fitting way, to the desire of the Church to respect fully the distinct vocation and heritage of Israelites in the Catholic Church. The Catholic Church knows and treasures the particular and privileged part in the economy of salvation assigned by God the Father to the People Israel.”

This conference gives testimony to what our Lord is doing today. It will take place at the Renaissance St. Louis Airport Hotel from Oct. 1 – 3. Speakers include: Marty Barrack, Mark Drogin, Dr. Lawrence Feingold, David Moss, Sr. Rosalind Moss, Mark & Sue Neugebauer, Roy Schoeman, Andre Villeneuve, Fr. Noah Waldman, and Ken Wilsker. A video recorded interview with Archbishop Raymond Burke will be shown.

There will be confession, Rosary and Divine Mercy devotions, and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Those celebrating daily Mass include Bishop Robert Hermann, Msgr. Joseph Pins, Fr. Noah Waldman, and others.

For more information and to register for the conference, please call 314-535-4242 or 314-423-1075. You can also get information and print off a registration form at [www.hebrewcatholic.org](http://www.hebrewcatholic.org), or you can send your inquiry to [ahc@hebrewcatholic.org](mailto:ahc@hebrewcatholic.org) or AHC Conference of St. Louis, 8015 Monroe Ave, St. Louis MO 63114.