

Please send comments and inquiries to [vineyard@votf.org](mailto:vineyard@votf.org).

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## Settlement in Chicago But Questions Remain

The Archdiocese of Chicago just announced a \$12.7 million settlement with 16 victims of clergy sexual abuse. Voice of the Faithful supports the settlement as a move towards justice. But this settlement, like others, still leaves us far short of the accountability and transparency so needed to transform our Church. Read our national press release on the settlement [here](#).

For the press release from the Chicagoland affiliate, click [here](#).

And to read what the Chicago newspapers reported on the settlement, check out the *Chicago Sun-Times* [coverage](#) and a *Chicago Tribune* [story](#).

You also can [download a PDF copy of the deposition](#) Cardinal George gave on Jan. 30, 2008, during the mediation of legal claims. It's on the Chicago Archdiocese web site: <http://www.archchicago.org>. Scroll down to the bottom of the left-hand column and click the link named Misconduct. The "Deposition of Cardinal George" is the last item shown on that page – it may take a while to download, so be warned.

## Music Heaven in St. Paul

There's something wonderful going on with young Catholics who find their way to the Midwest in July. It's Music Ministry Alive!, a summer camp title especially apt for a program that draws young liturgical musicians and singers from across the nation. It was an uplifting experience for a lucky VOTF member, as she [tells us here](#).

## NATIONAL News

National VOTF **welcomes Siobhan Carroll as new Vineyard editor**. Siobhan joined us at the end of July and set up the July 25 issue of *In the Vineyard*. Siobhan brings extensive media relations and writing experience to the task, having worked in public relations for more than 18 years. Along with developing marketing plans and product launches, Siobhan has developed newsletters, op-ed contributions, and exhibitions throughout the U.S. She was present at the "birth" of VOTF – pushing her own baby in a stroller at the Hynes Convention Center – and lives now in Rhode Island with her husband, two sons and daughter. Siobhan will be looking for your help in the coming weeks, to learn

what your affiliates and working groups are doing. Please welcome her.

**Diocesan Survey News** – Here's a **VOTF Volunteer Opportunity you can do right at home**. VOTF is continuing the [diocesan survey](#) we completed for 34 dioceses last year. There are a total of 175 dioceses in the United States (118 of these dioceses have no VOTF affiliate), and we need YOUR HELP to cover them all. Many of you have asked what you or your affiliate can do to advance our work in VOTF. Here's a great opportunity to do just that. Please [read the details here](#) and then contact Sheila Grove at [scgrove@comcast.net](mailto:scgrove@comcast.net) if you can help.

## Survivor Community News

**CAN YOU HELP? Please Keep in Your Prayers** Phil Saviano, our SNAP colleague in Boston, who has asked us to send this query to local member lists. Phil is having a serious health crisis and is reaching out to friends, family and the survivor support community for help. Phil's kidneys are failing, and he needs kidney transplant surgery. He may have only a few months left before they shut down completely.

Anyone who wants more information about the kidney donor program, or who may want to be kept apprised of Phil's progress can contact him by email at his SNAP address:

[saviano2@snapnetwork.org](mailto:saviano2@snapnetwork.org). For MORE INFO on the surgery needed, [please read on](#) . . .

## Affiliate News

### Long Island VOTF Prepares for Convention

The Long Island Voice of the Faithful is sponsoring Faith Convention V, "A Forum on the Emergence of the Laity in the 21st Century" on September 13, 2008 from 8:30-4pm at the Huntington, NY Hilton.

Featured Speakers include:

Leonard Swidler, Ph.D. Temple University Professor. Author of over 180 articles and 60 books including "Making the Church Our Own" and "How We Can Reform the Catholic Church from the Ground Up".

Paul Lakeland, Ph.D. - Professor and Chair of the Department of Religious Studies at Fairfield University. Author of six important books on key issues affecting the Catholic Church, among them, "Liberation of the Laity" and "Catholicism at the Crossroads".

For more information [click here](#).

### Southeastern Wisconsin Affiliate Report

Father Marek Bozek spoke to a packed house at a recent meeting of Southeastern Wisconsin VOTF. According to Nancy Moews, coordinator, "We meet 3 times a year and stay in the black. Each time we have a presenter who challenges the status quo. We also work with Peter Isley and SNAP. Another attempt will be made to pass a Child Victims Act this fall. Our goal is to continue to educate as many as possible about the changes that are so obviously needed. A very lively book discussion meets in the

early summer and late fall.”

The next Steering Committee will decide on the 3 speakers for next year. Southeastern Wisconsin does not meet during the winter months due to driving issues

**Maine VOTF recently elected** Bob McAteer as its new President. They also elected Steve Roy as Vice President, Francis McGillicuddy as Treasurer, and Jane Merchant as Clerk/Secretary. Jane also serves as one of the New England representatives on VOTF’s National Representative Council. Their election rated attention from the [\*Bangor Daily News\*](#).

**Santa Barbara VOTF (VOTFSBA) has just issued** their Annual Report of chapter activities.

Highlights include:

- A June 12 visit from Bishop Geoffrey Robinson of Australia who agreed to talk in Culver City as part of his book tour. A contingent of VOTFSBA members drove down to hear him.
- Harriet Burke’s letter to the National Catholic Reporter, inspired by Bishop Robinson’s courage and the stories of survivors, was published in the July 7, 2008 issue.
- On June 17, Dr. Paul Lakeland gave two inspiring lectures, co-sponsored by Word and Life and VOTFSBA.
- Over the weekend of June 20-22, Olan Horne, one of the abuse survivors who met with Pope Benedict XVI, gave a series of talks in Santa Barbara on the weekend of June 20-22, sponsored by Paul Fericano’s SafeNet, and attended by dozens of VOTFSBA members.

Looking to the fall, VOTFSBA is anticipating a visit by renowned theologian Hans Kung to University of California at Santa Barbara in mid-November. He will be giving a public lecture on Monday, November 17 at 8 p.m., as well as leading an informal panel discussion to which the public is invited.

For more information on VOTFSBA’s annual report, [click here](#).

## **SITE-Seeing, Etc.**

**Update on St. Stanislaus** in St. Louis: Although Archbishop Burke is on his way to a new Vatican appointment, the standoff between the Archdiocese of St. Louis and the St. Stanislaus Catholic Church continues to take some surprising turns. The Archdiocese is now suing St. Stanislaus parish to regain control and it's joined in the suit by some of the former Board members who initiated the defiant stance against the bishop's attempt to take over the parish. To read the latest twist, [click here](#).

## **Bishop Thomas Gumbleton Honored with the Gift of Life Award**

The Catholic Church of the Madonna will honor the Most Reverend Thomas Gumbleton with the Father William T. Cunningham Gift of Life Award on Sunday, September 7 at 2008 at Sinbad’s on the

River in Detroit, Michigan.

This award is given annually to an individual continuing Father Cunningham's work; one who serves beyond their immediate community, with a passion kindled by humanitarianism.

To learn more about Bishop Gumbleton or buy tickets to the celebration, please e-mail The Catholic Church of the Madonna at [office@madonnachurch.org](mailto:office@madonnachurch.org) or call 313-868-4308.

## **Books**

Harvard University recently released "Holding Bishops Accountable: How lawsuits Helped the Catholic Church Confront Clergy Sexual Abuse." In his book, Albany Law School Professor Timothy D. Lytton describes how the litigation strategy of plaintiffs' lawyers gave rise to a widespread belief that the real problem was not the actions of individual priests but rather the church's massive institutional failure.

The book documents how church and government policymakers responded to the problem of clergy sexual abuse only under the pressure of private lawsuits.

**Look for a review of this book in a later issue of *In the Vineyard*.**

A Week in Music Heaven  
By Donna B. Doucette, Executive Director

*God is good. ALL THE TIME.*

I know where some of the young Catholics we so often worry about can be found.

*Praise the Lord. ALLELULIA!*

One hundred seventy of them attended Music Ministry Alive! at the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul MN near the end of July.

They came from across the U.S. for this 10th anniversary of a ministry aimed at empowering young musicians who have a passion for liturgical music and a desire to serve as ministers in their parishes or schools. They came to enhance and share their musical gifts and spirituality, in an atmosphere where the goal is “fostering the growth of young pastoral musicians, one saint at a time.”

*Can the church say Amen? AMEN!!*

Founded in 1999 by David Haas, a noted liturgical music composer, teacher, and musician, the five-day camp each summer brings together musicians and singers who are in the 10th, 11th, or 12th grades through the first two years of college. Associate Director Lori True and a host of liturgical musicians, composers, and conductors spend the week teaching, guiding, training – and learning from – their young charges. This year’s team included Fr. Ray East, Tony Alonso, Peter Kolar, Bobby Fisher, Betsey Beckman, Joe Camacho, Kate Cuddy, Paul Tate, Tom Franzak, Stephen Petrunak, and a surprise appearance by Jesse Manibusan.

There’s an adult track, too, where pastoral liturgists and singers can renew their own gifts. Adults fortunate enough to have provided transportation for the young attendees (like me) or who reside in the area also can share some of the experiences by attending morning and evening prayers, an opening concert, and a Saturday evening concert performed entirely by the young musicians.

This year’s Saturday night concert was fabulous. But then, judging by the eagerness of the local attendees and the expectations of other returnees in the audience, as well as the testimony of my own granddaughter, the Saturday concerts are always “BEYOND AWESOME!”

In addition to the contributions of these teachers and youth leaders, the camp benefits from the generosity of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, who run “St. Kate’s” and close their campus one week each summer for the sole use of Music Ministry Alive!

But they can always use more support. Plus, if you have any interest in working with (and learning from) young Catholics, St. Paul MN is where you should be next summer. It will change your life.

Check out their web site for more info: <http://www.musicministryalive.com/>

*ALLELULIA!*

## **SNAP Advocate Faces Serious Health Problems**

Phil Saviano is having a serious health crisis and is reaching out to friends, family and the survivor support community for help. Phil's kidneys are failing, and he needs kidney transplant surgery. He may have only a few months left before they shut down completely.

### **WHY NOT DIALYSIS?**

If Phil's kidneys shut down completely, he could be kept alive on a dialysis machine. He would also be eligible then to join the national transplant list, waiting in line for a kidney transplant from a cadaver. But the wait would be at least 4 years, and his doctors say that it is quite possible that Phil could die on dialysis. It's possible that by the time a cadaver kidney is available, Phil could be so debilitated that he would no longer be strong enough to withstand the surgery. So his best option, by far, is to get a kidney transplant now, from a live donor.

### **GOOD NEWS**

The good news is that apart from his failing kidneys, Phil is currently in very good health. He has had a wide range of medical tests in recent months, and his doctors say he is a fine candidate for the surgery. Phil has been HIV+ for over 25 years, but the virus has been completely suppressed for many years now, and is undetectable in his blood stream. If he finds a donor, the surgery will be done at Boston's Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, one of ten hospitals across the country that are doing liver and kidney transplants on AIDS patients.

### **WHAT'S THE CAUSE?**

The cause for Phil's kidney failure goes back to the summer of 1995 when he was given a potent drug to treat a serious infection. The cure was successful, but the drug had the unexpected side effect of damaging his kidneys.

### **WHAT'S NEEDED IN A DONOR**

A potential donor for Phil is someone who has either Type O or Type B blood. The person has to be in good health, with no prior history of cancer or diabetes. The donor cannot currently be significantly overweight, or have significant high blood pressure. Surgery on the donor is done with a new, less-invasive laparoscopic technique that leaves a small scar, and is much easier to tolerate and recover from than traditional abdominal surgery. The donor's hospital stay is just 2 – 3 days, and the recovery period is two weeks. Potential donors are very carefully screened to be sure they are in excellent health. Every person is born with two kidneys, but only one is needed. The donors are not subjected to any risk of compromised health or lifestyle in the years after the donation. All screening tests, doctor's visits and the surgery and hospitalization are at no charge to the donor.

Anyone who wants more information about the kidney donor program, or who may want to be kept apprised of Phil's progress can contact him by email at his SNAP address: [saviano2@snapnetwork.org](mailto:saviano2@snapnetwork.org).

## **Voice of Faithful name Ellsworth man president**

Bangor Daily News - Bangor,ME,USA

By Judy Harrison

An Ellsworth man has been elected president of the Maine Chapter of Voice of the Faithful.

Bob McAteer, 70, is the first person to serve as president who lives in northern Maine. He also is the spokesman for VOTF-Maine.

The organization elected new officers earlier this month.

VOTF is a worldwide movement of concerned mainstream Catholics founded in Wellesley, Mass., in response to the clergy sexual abuse crisis. The Maine group was formed in 2002, the same year three priests were removed from parishes in St. Agatha, Madawaska and Ellsworth.

The organization's goals are to support those who have been abused, to support priests of integrity and to shape structural change within the Catholic Church in full accordance and harmony with church teaching.

McAteer, a communicant at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Ellsworth, said earlier this month that he joined VOTF after he learned his brother at age 8 was abused by a priest in another state.

"He didn't reveal it to me until he was in his 50s," McAteer said. "I thought that maybe if I could do something here in Maine, it would help fulfill his wishes."

McAteer said that he wanted to focus the group's efforts more on talking about the possibilities of restructuring the church over the next century.

"I want the church I leave behind to be better than the one I had," he said. "I don't expect changes in my lifetime. We're dealing with a 2,000-year-old power structure but I don't think we should give up either."

McAteer said that another goal was to get more laypeople from northern Maine involved in the organization.

Other newly elected officers are: vice president, Steve Roy of Cape Elizabeth; treasurer, Francis McGillicuddy of Portland; clerk-secretary, Jane Merchant of Kennebunkport.