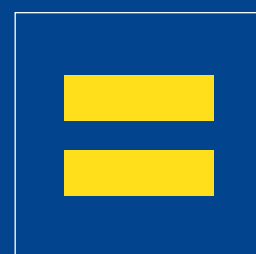




“If someone is gay and he searches for the Lord and has good will, who am I to judge? We shouldn’t marginalize people for this. They must be integrated into society.”

— Pope Francis, 2013



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PRAY, LISTEN, DISCERN FOR LGBT FAMILIES

Rosary vigils will be held in these cities to raise the voices of LGBT Catholics. Praying of the rosary will be followed by community events to distribute information and raise awareness.

Baltimore, Md.

Sunday, Oct. 19 at 3 p.m.

Basilica of the Assumption
408 Cathedral St.
Baltimore, MD 21201

Chicago, Ill.

Tuesday, Oct. 14 at 6 p.m.

Holy Name Cathedral
735 N. State St.
Chicago, IL 60610

Cincinnati, Ohio

Wednesday, Oct. 15 at 6 p.m.

St. Peter in Chains Cathedral
325 W. 8th St.
Cincinnati, OH 45202

San Francisco, Calif.

Monday, Oct. 6 at 6 p.m.

Cathedral of St. Mary
111 Gough St.
San Francisco, CA 94109

Springfield, Ill.

Monday, Oct. 13 at 6 p.m.

Cathedral of the
Immaculate Conception
524 E. Lawrence Ave.
Springfield, IL 62703

St. Paul, Minn.

Thursday, Oct. 9 at 6 p.m.

Cathedral of St. Paul
239 Selby Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55102

Philadelphia, Pa.

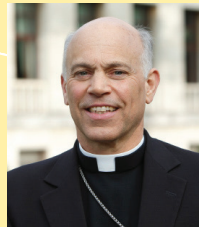
Friday, Oct. 17 at 6 p.m.

Cathedral Basilica of
Saints Peter and Paul
18th St. & Benjamin Franklin Pkwy.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

See hrc.org/synod for more.

THE BEST OF THE WORST

CATHOLIC BISHOPS ACROSS THE COUNTRY

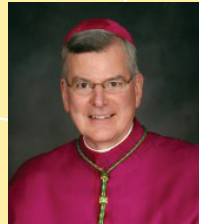


Salvatore Cordileone

Archbishop of San Francisco, Calif.

Cordileone has openly

characterized same-sex attraction as “self-destructive” and is a leader in Courage, which encourages lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people to abstain from sex. An influential proponent of Proposition 8, Cordileone also has spoken out against the Employment Non-Discrimination Act and civil unions and has called marriage equality “harmful to individuals and to society as a whole.” In 2014, HRC condemned his statements in support of a constitutional amendment banning marriage equality, where he called such legislation “the only remedy in law against judicial activism.”

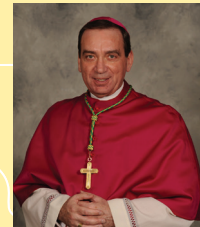


John Nienstedt

Archbishop of St. Paul and Minneapolis, Minn.

“Those who actively

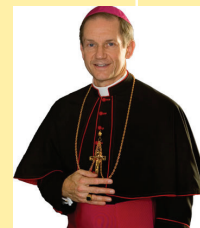
encourage or promote homosexual acts...formally cooperate in a grave evil and, if they do so knowingly and willingly, are guilty of mortal sin,” Nienstedt said in 2007. “Surely they must be aware that they have turned their backs on God and the standards of God in their quest to make evil look so attractive.” He has said that, “Homosexuality must be understood in the context of other human disorders: envy, malice, greed, etc.,” and that it “is a result of psychological trauma.” When an anti-marriage equality amendment was on the Minnesota ballot in 2012, Nienstedt used more than \$600,000 of church funds to support the amendment. The amendment failed, and the state legislature passed marriage equality soon thereafter, for which Nienstedt blamed “satan.” Recently he has come under investigation over alleged sexual misconduct with other men, including other priests, a charge he denies.



Dennis Schnurr

Archbishop of Cincinnati, Ohio
Schnurr is an outspoken

opponent of marriage equality. In response to the recent 6th Circuit Court of Appeals' deliberation on marriage equality, he said, “The law in our state was a constitutional amendment strongly supported by Ohio's bishops in 2004, and for good reason. Traditional marriage, the union of one man and one woman for life, is the cradle of the family, which is the basic building block of society.”



Thomas Paprocki

Bishop of Springfield, Ill.

When Illinois passed marriage equality, Paprocki characterized it as “contrary to the plan of God” and held an exorcism “in reparation for the sin of same-sex marriage.” In reference to marriage equality, he said, “We must pray for deliverance from this evil which has penetrated our state and our church.”



Charles Chaput

Archbishop of Philadelphia, Pa.

Chaput has been a vocal opponent of marriage equality and has suggested that it harms the children of same-sex unions. When Pennsylvania courts struck down the Defense of Marriage Act, Chaput described the decision as a “mistake with long-term, negative consequences,” expressing hope the decision would be successfully appealed “to defend the rights of children and contribute to the well-being of the larger community.”

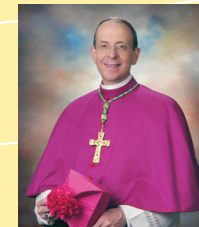


Cardinal Francis George

Archbishop of Chicago, Ill.

In response to a planned gay pride parade that would pass by a Catholic church, George said, “You don't want the gay liberation movement to morph into something like the Ku Klux Klan,

demonstrating in the streets against Catholicism.” (2011) The Human Rights Campaign responded by condemning the comments on the blog. George apologized after there were calls for his resignation. In 2013, he said that same-sex marriage legislation in Illinois was “acting against the common good of society.”



William Lori

Archbishop of Baltimore, Md.

Lori called the passage of marriage equality in Maryland in 2012 a “wake-up call,” encouraging Catholics to “redouble our efforts to defend marriage, to preach about what marriage is.” Lori signed a letter to U.S. senators in 2013 opposing ENDA.



Joseph Kurtz

Archbishop of Louisville, Ky.; President of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops

Kurtz gained prominence among conservative Catholic leaders by being a leading voice against marriage equality as chair of the conference's committee on same-sex marriage, which he has characterized as this generation's *Roe v. Wade*. Kurtz also started a local chapter of Courage, which encourages celibacy among LGBT people. He was one of three bishops who signed a letter sent to U.S. senators in 2013 opposing ENDA.



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