



# Catholic Academy for Communication Arts Professionals Catholic Press Association of the United States and Canada

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Dear Catholic Academy and CPA members and friends:

“The sounds of the future” is the theme of this year’s Catholic media convocation, and we think you’ll find the future in many of the workshops and seminars at our convocation, to be held at the Loews Vanderbilt Hotel in Nashville May 24-26, 2006.

There will be a major session on the future of Catholic communications led by Msgr. Francis Maniscalco and, in anticipation of the May 19 movie version release, a session on the phenomenon of The DaVinci Code. You will also be able to preview the CCC’s Jesus Decoded. There will be information sessions on how hurricanes Katrina and Rita have dramatically changed the Gulf Coast area – and what communications lessons all of us can learn from these events. We have sessions on the Internet, from the nuts and bolts of how to create an effective Web site to how podcasting and other new forms are changing how we communicate. Keynote speakers such as the leader of the Catholic Health Association and Archbishop Edwin O’Brien, who is leading the team of U.S. bishops reviewing seminary life, will give us insights into major trends that will affect our readers’ futures. Workshops on mentoring, photojournalism, advertising, editorial writing, graphics and the spiritual dimension of our work among many other elements mean that there is something for everyone on your staff at this convocation.

For many of us, perhaps the most valued aspect of our annual gatherings is the ability to meet new friends and share our successes and failures with valued friends and colleagues. This is our second joint meeting of the Catholic Academy for Communication Arts Professionals and the Catholic Press Association of the United States and Canada. This year’s theme is especially relevant to our two organizations, as we contemplate how the world of communications is being transformed by the digital age and how we can work together to communicate more richly the Gospel message to new audiences.

Please note that the registration fee remains at \$325 for the entire convocation. If you were to attend a seminar on only one of the topics we’re offering, through a different source, it could cost you more than \$300 for that single seminar. In addition, the room rate for the Loews Vanderbilt, a premium hotel across the street from Vanderbilt University, is a competitive \$119 a night, single or double.

Come listen to some of the “sounds of the future” in Nashville; what you hear may encourage you to create some of your own “sounds for the future” in your organization! Or, as they say in Nashville, y’all come now!

Sincerely,

Jeanean Merkel  
President  
Catholic Academy  
of Communication Arts Professionals

Helen Osman  
President  
Catholic Press Association  
of the United States and Canada