

# THE JOHN CARDINAL FOLEY SYMPOSIUM

celebrating
World Communications Day
May 23, 2019





THEME OF POPE FRANCIS' MESSAGE FOR WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY 2019







Ever since the internet first became available, the Church has always sought to promote its use in the service of the encounter between persons, and of solidarity among all. With this *Message* I would like to invite you once again to reflect on the foundation and importance of our being-in-relation and to rediscover, in the vast array of challenges of the current communications context, the desire of the human person who does not want to be left isolated and alone.





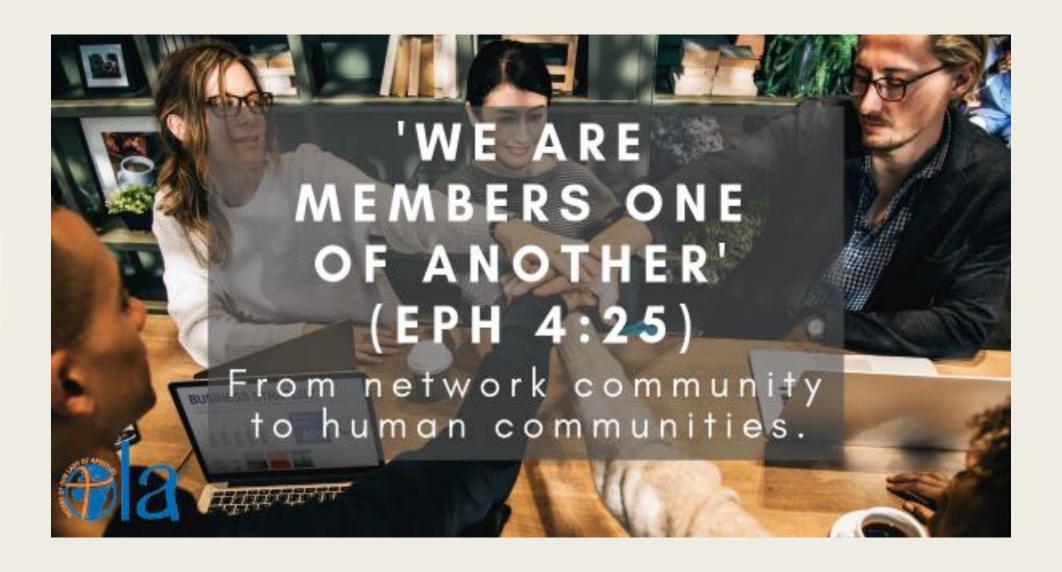




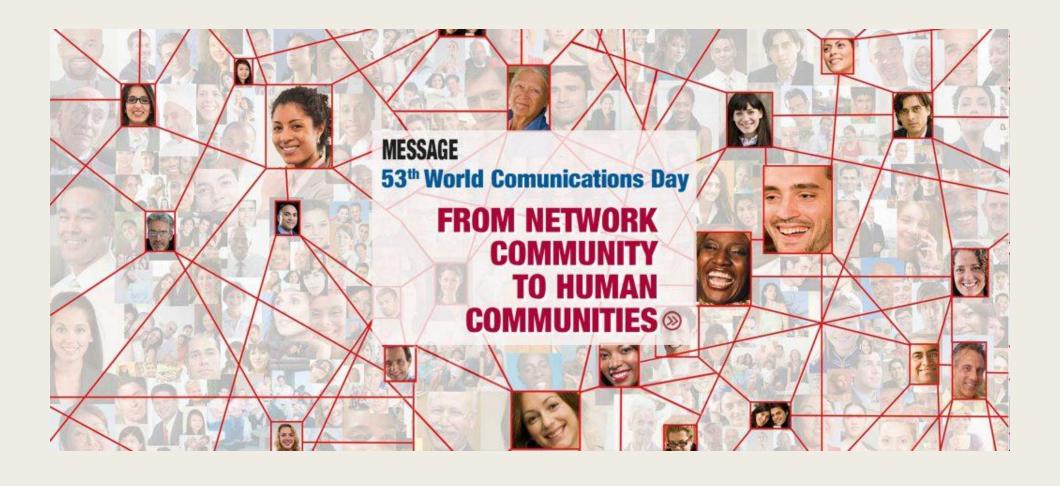


The Net is an opportunity to promote encounter with others, but it can also increase our self-isolation, like a web that can entrap us. Young people are the ones most exposed to the illusion that the social web can completely satisfy them on a relational level. There is the dangerous phenomenon of young people becoming "social hermits" who risk alienating themselves completely from society. This dramatic situation reveals a serious rupture in the relational fabric of society, one we cannot ignore.







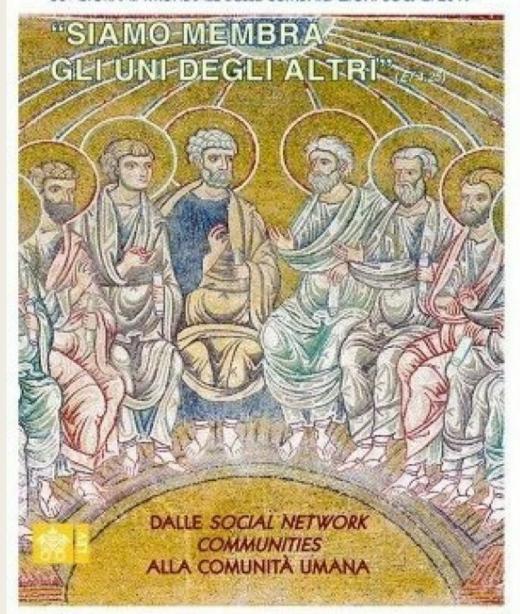




The metaphor of the body and the members leads us to reflect on our identity, which is based on communion and on "otherness". As Christians, we all recognize ourselves as members of the one body whose head is Christ. This helps us not to see people as potential competitors, but to consider even our enemies as persons. We no longer need an adversary in order to define ourselves, because the allencompassing gaze we learn from Christ leads us to discover otherness in a new way, as an integral part and condition of relationship and closeness.

#### Papa Francesco

MESSAGGIO PER LA CELEBRAZIONE DELLA 53º GIORNATA MONDIALE DELLE COMUNICAZIONI SOCIALI 2019











The present context calls on all of us to invest in relationships, and to affirm the interpersonal nature of our humanity, including in and through the network. All the more so, we Christians are called to manifest that communion which marks our identity as believers. Faith itself, in fact, is a relationship, an encounter; and under the impetus of God's love, we can communicate, welcome and understand the gift of the other and respond to it.











Communion in the image of the Trinity is precisely what distinguishes the person from the individual. From faith in God who is Trinity, it follows that in order to be myself I need others. I am truly human, truly personal, only if I relate to others. In fact, the word "person" signifies the human being as a "face", whose face is turned towards the other, who is engaged with others. Our life becomes more human insofar as its nature becomes less individual and more personal; we see this authentic path of becoming more human in one who moves from being an individual who perceives the other as a rival, to a *person* who recognizes others as travelling companions.



The network as a continuation or in expectation of an encounter





## WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY

2019 catholicnews.org.uk





"God is not Solitude, but Communion; He is Love, and therefore communication"



This is the network we want, a network created not to entrap, but to liberate, to protect a communion of people who are free. The Church herself is a network woven together by Eucharistic communion, where unity is based not on "likes", but on the truth, on the "Amen", by which each one clings to the Body of Christ, and welcomes others.

# The John Cardinal Foley Award for Excellence in Communications

presented annually by Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary in conjunction with the celebration of World Communications Day

to a communications professional whose work exemplifies the positive potential of mass media to inform, instruct, and inspire others in the quest to build a more just world.















### Cardinal Foley Symposium 2019



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