



# The John Cardinal Foley SYMPOSIUM

@ St. Charles Borromeo Seminary

## PRESENTATION OF THE 2022 CARDINAL FOLEY AWARD

### **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.*

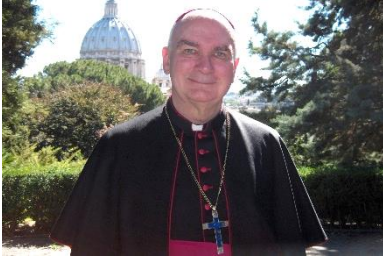


*by Bishop Timothy Senior, Rector of Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary*

At this, the seventh annual symposium to celebrate World Communications Day, it gives me great pleasure, in the name of Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary, to present this award in the name of an alumnus and former faculty member: **CARDINAL JOHN PATRICK FOLEY**.

Having served as President of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications from 1984 to 2007, Cardinal Foley worked tirelessly at strengthen the Church's place and enhance its work in the realm of global communications.

Concerning that work, Pope Francis writes in this year's Message for World Communications Day about the "boundless desire" that human beings have "to be heard" -- and, consequently, about listening as a condition of good communications.



Listening is how most people came to encounter Cardinal Foley. Respected for his graciousness and his pastoral heart, he was even more popularly known as “the voice of Christmas” -- on account of his narrating and translating the papal Mass televised each year from the Vatican.

Having a recognizable and trustworthy voice to which millions of viewers listen ... that was true of Cardinal Foley. And it’s certainly characteristic of this year’s Foley Award winner. The voice of 6ABC’s Action News for more than four decades, he has enjoyed “the longest consistent successful anchor career in American history.”

Having earned a degree in political science in 1970 from Columbia University, where Cardinal Foley a few years earlier also completed a degree in journalism, our honoree began his broadcasting career in radio in New York. After just a few years, he shifted to television work in Buffalo. From there he came to us in Philly in 1976. And ever since then, as folks around here say, what happens isn’t news unless he says so!

We all believe that dictum, because, as his professional colleagues readily acknowledge, the hallmark of his career is his journalistic integrity. His co-workers point to his exemplary standards and how these have led him never to compromise or take short cuts in his pursuit of excellence.



Whether broadcasting from international hotspots, or commenting at national political conventions, or covering papal visits, or simply reporting the local news -- he continues to uphold and model the guideposts of ABC News, namely, to be accurate and fair. From his example, we can all learn.

In his message for World Communications Day, Pope Francis mentions how “so much previously accumulated mistrust towards ‘official information’ has also caused an ‘infodemic’, within which the world of information is increasingly struggling to be credible and transparent.”

Thankfully, we in greater Philadelphia have not had to struggle as much, because we have been blessed by this man's credible presence with us in communicating the news and information we need to hear.

Looking ahead to when that last sign-off comes, and that familiar theme music plays a final time for you, we want you to know how grateful we will always be for your trustworthy voice, your exemplary work, and your singular contribution to our civic life.



Ladies and gentlemen, please join me now in congratulating the recipient of the *2022 John Cardinal Foley Award for Excellence in Communications ...*

## JIM GARDNER



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