



# The John Cardinal Foley SYMPOSIUM

@ St. Charles Borromeo Seminary

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## PRESENTATION OF THE 2023 CARDINAL FOLEY AWARD

*by Reverend Keith Chylinski, Rector of Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary*

### **The John Cardinal Foley Award for Excellence in Communications**

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

*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.*



At this, the eighth 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.

In his work here in Philadelphia and at the Vatican, Cardinal Foley worked tirelessly to strengthen the Church's place and enhance its work in the realm of global communications. By all accounts, he was universally respected as much for his journalistic sensibility as for his clerical responsibility.



The annual celebration of World Communications Day focuses on that work, in which many of share directly. In his [message for this year's celebration](#), POPE FRANCIS exhorts us to speak with the heart in all our communications, in contrast to a world “inclined towards indifference and indignation.”



Communicating in this way was the forte of Cardinal Foley.

Archbishop Claudio Maria Celli, the cardinal’s immediate successor at the Pontifical Council for Social Communications, spoke of this in a homily a month after his predecessor’s death.

Cardinal Foley, he said, made it possible “to see the face of a church capable of speaking to the world with cordialness and to dialogue with it in maximum openness, without ever putting aside the truth or its own reasons.”

He added that Cardinal Foley “had the tone of one who ... did not see enemies or adversaries, but (people) before whom he could make transparent, by way of a friendly welcome, the benevolence of the Lord.”

As for the journalist whom we honor today ... well, we don’t often get to hear her tone since her work is mostly written! But, like the cardinal before her, she has certainly helped the English-speaking world to see the face of the Catholic Church and, in particular, of the popes that lead it.

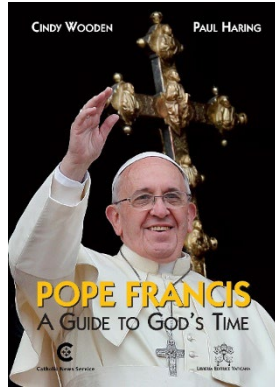


As a journalist, she has covered the Vatican since 1989, and her four decades worth of stories have been published in every major Catholic news outlet.

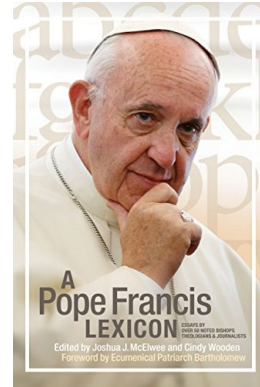
She has also travelled the world with the current pope, as well as his two predecessors. From her seat in the front row of the press cabin, she frequently participates in the papal press conferences.



From that experience, she has gained a unique perspective on Catholicism as a global enterprise – a view she has shared with us in two books about Pope Francis: one describing the Holy Father as “A Guide in God’s Time”; the other offering a Lexicon of his quite unique, often homespun, and always intriguing vocabulary.



(USCCB, 2014)



(Liturgical Press, 2017)

As a leading authority on the life and workings of the Church, communicated in keeping with the highest standards of her profession, she was honored by the Catholic Media Association with its St. Francis de Sales Award in 2021.

Today, we are delighted to add to that affirmation of her work, which “exemplifies the positive potential of mass media to inform, instruct, and inspire others in the quest to build a more just world.”

Ladies and gentlemen, please join me now in congratulating the recipient of the *2023 John Cardinal Foley Award for Excellence in Communications...*

## CINDY WOODEN



## PRESENTATION OF THE DONATION

*by Reverend Keith Chylinski, Rector of Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary*

Conferral of the Cardinal Foley Award includes a charitable donation of \$1,000 given on behalf of our award-winner to a non-profit organization.

Cindy is directing this year's donation to the **Humanitarian Aid Fund of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in America.**



In the absence of our friend, Metropolitan Archbishop Borys Gudziak, who could not be with us due to a prior commitment, I invite MONSIGNOR PETER WASLO, Chancellor of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Philadelphia, to join us.

As we know, the people of Ukraine are fighting for the lives ... and their way of life.

“Their sacrifice for freedom and God-given human dignity, their love for truth and social justice, and their heroic witness of fearless solidarity are inspiring people of good will globally. Millions of Ukrainian citizens are radically incarnating the Gospel virtues as they imitate Christ in the Way of the Cross on route to a victory over death in the Resurrection.” ([ukrarcheparchy.us](http://ukrarcheparchy.us))

In the name of CINDY WOODEN, we are happy to make this donation to support the efforts of the Ukrainian Catholic Church as they assist the citizens of Ukraine. Their valor in the midst of such great suffering bears witness to our shared faith and our common hope ... and should inspire our generous charity.

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