



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS
OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS
305 Michigan Avenue
Detroit, Michigan 48226
www.AODcommunications.org
TEL 313-237-5943
FAX 313-237-4644

Detroit's Archbishop Responds to Papal Letter on Williamson Quandary

Archbishop Allen Vigneron of Detroit describes Pope Benedict XVI's letter to his brother bishops regarding the Bishop Williamson quandary as an important "clarification and pastoral communication" for Church leaders and Catholics, and by extension, for those in the Jewish community and beyond who have expressed concern or confusion.

In the correspondence, the pope provides a comprehensive explanation why he revoked the excommunication of the Holocaust-denying bishop. The Holy Father admits to mistakes in how the Vatican handled the case and explained it publicly when first announced back in January. He also shares why he believes "the unity of all believers" is essential for the well being of the current and future Church.

"Pope Benedict," Archbishop Vigneron says, "has once again drawn on his training as an educator to make this experience one that everyone can learn from, including him."

The text of Pope Benedict's letter and additional resources are available at www.AODonline.org.

Issued Thursday, 12th March 2009