



## Introducing the Catholic News Archive:

*Catholic news of yesterday, today, and tomorrow*

- A fully-searchable digital repository of Catholic newspapers
- Free online access to parishioners, students, Church leaders, newspaper staff, scholars
- Digital archiving for preservation and access
- Check it out at [thecatholicnewsarchive.org](http://thecatholicnewsarchive.org)

The Catholic News Archive opened in fall 2016. It is a project of the Catholic Research Resources Alliance, a nonprofit membership alliance, in partnership with newspapers, diocesan archives and financial supporters in response to pleas from scholars, librarians, archivists and newspaper editors for online access and digital preservation. In 2015, a survey of Catholic newspapers and academic libraries showed that 80% of the respondents were interested in a collaborative initiative to implement an online searchable archive.

As a result, CRRA set up the Catholic Newspaper Program which “identifies, locates, preserves and digitizes North American Catholic newspapers working systematically and collaboratively with members, scholars and associations to provide access to all extant Catholic newspapers published in North America.”

Is your paper listed in the *Directory of Catholic Newspapers Online (DCNO)*? Frequently consulted by users, it provides links to more than 200 papers, including many diocesan papers. Find your paper at [www.catholicresearch.org/directory-of-catholic-newspapers-online](http://www.catholicresearch.org/directory-of-catholic-newspapers-online). If not included, contact Laura Lyman at [lyman@catholicresearch.org](mailto:lyman@catholicresearch.org).

Are you interested in adding your paper to the Archive? The *Catholic News Archive Community News Hosting Service* ([www.catholicresearch.org/CNA-Community](http://www.catholicresearch.org/CNA-Community)) provides a secure, professional-grade, reliable and search-engine-friendly solution for publishers of Catholic news seeking to maintain an online archive of current and/or historical issues. If your paper is not digitized, CRRA can provide information on digitization and metadata standards, specifications, costs, and vendors. Send queries to Jennifer Younger at [jyounger@catholicresearch.org](mailto:jyounger@catholicresearch.org) or Laura Lyman at [lyman@catholicresearch.org](mailto:lyman@catholicresearch.org).

### *Why participate in the Catholic News Archive?*

- Free access to your readers and to students, scholars and readers worldwide
- Provide your readers with the power of a central repository
- Digital archiving with an option to archive own content locally
- Digital archiving of digitized content and PDFs in same archive
- Save time and money through participation in a hosted community platform
- Benefit by sharing financial support with libraries, archives and sponsors
- Keep Catholic newspapers available

**A**s newspapers age, their pages get more brittle and fragile. And outdated technologies such as microfilm and microfiche keep those newspapers from being readily accessible unless you live near a big downtown library or a university that still has the machines needed to read that data.”  
--Mark Pattison, CNS story

**Any** students and I frequently use Catholic newspapers to illuminate how Catholicism engages with the broader context in which it exists.”  
--Dr. James P. McCartin, Director, Fordham University Center on Religion and Culture

# Tweeting eternal truths – in 140 characters or less



**Peter Finney Jr.**  
CLARION HERALD

Bishop Paul Tighe, a son of language, culture and self-deprecating humor, and on Dec. 12, 2012, the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the then-secretary of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications accomplished something no Vaticanista ever thought possible. He got Pope Benedict XVI, then 85 years old, to tweet. Using the Twitter handle @Pontifex, which in Latin



Bishop Paul Tighe, adjunct secretary of the Vatican's Pontifical Council on Culture, told Notre Dame seminarians last week the church needs to share its voice in the digital world because that's exactly where the people are.

means "bridge builder," Pope Benedict pushed the launch of an iPad, launching his digital encyclical event, exactly 140 characters. "Dear friends, I am pleased to get in touch with you through Twitter. Thank you for your generous response. I bless all of you from my heart."

There has been a lot of water under the Pontifical bridge since the Vatican made a focused effort to engage the culture on the culture's terms. Bishop Tighe is now the adjunct secretary of the Vatican's Pontifical Council for Culture, and he was in New Orleans last week to speak to Notre Dame seminarians about the church and the digital culture. He described Pope Benedict's landmark tweet as "an extremely extraordinary moment."

**Visual cues of Pope Francis.** Through the 2012-2013 liturgical year, what perhaps is even more amazing is that the Vatican's aggressive step into digital communication has been given credit and recognition by a new pope, now 80, who seems to have been conceived for this moment of digital evangelization.

"Pope Francis speaks like a pastor," Bishop Tighe said. "He communicates very simply. He uses words, but he

and there were thousands. "There was a deliberate campaign to get the pope out of Twitter by sending in the most extraordinary questions, with anatomical references of every nature and every language and every explosive you could ever imagine," Bishop Tighe said. "That of this was to force the Vatican to get out, to lighten an army."

But by navigating through the scatalogical, four-letter forest, Bishop Tighe said he

are not allowed access easily to any church involvement," Bishop Tighe said, "and they were signing up on Twitter to follow the pope. So they had a sense of community. There was a sense of something that was affirming their identity."

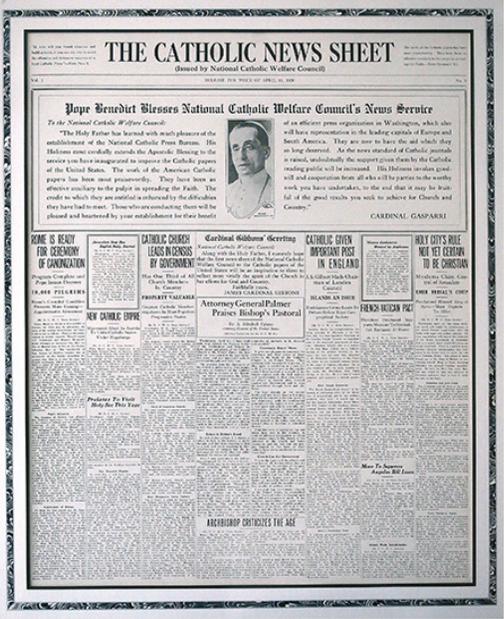
Last month, Bishop Tighe traveled to Austin, Texas, for the digital networking conference called "South by Southwest." He joked that among the thousands of digital natives, he probably was the only priest and "the only person with a halo."

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**"The Catholic Church needs to have its history easily accessible to researchers and interested readers, Catholic and non-Catholic alike. The CRRA digitizing project will allow us to tell our story directly and effectively."**

**--The Most Reverend Gregory M. Aymond, Archbishop of New Orleans**



**"Having the CNS newsfeeds from 1920 to the 1960s digitized will allow access for the first time to anyone with the Internet because previously the microfilm was only available in three collections in the U.S. Thanks to the CRRA grant from the Catholic Communication Campaign. Now to digitize the rest!"**

**--Katherine Nuss, Information and Archive Services for CNS and the USCCB**

**"A digital newspaper archive will make it possible to understand, on a very wide scale, Catholicism as practiced by ordinary people."**

**--Michael Skaggs, Doctoral Candidate and Media Historian, University of Notre Dame**

**"Journalism has been called the first rough draft of history. Looking beyond the main headlines of old newspapers, at minor stories and even advertising, gives us a sense of the culture of a particular time, and helps us place past and current events in historical perspective. For Catholics who wish to look back on the revolutionary changes that took place in the Church in the 1960s, the Catholic News Archive offers compelling reading."**

**--K. E. Colombini, First Things, May 18, 2017**

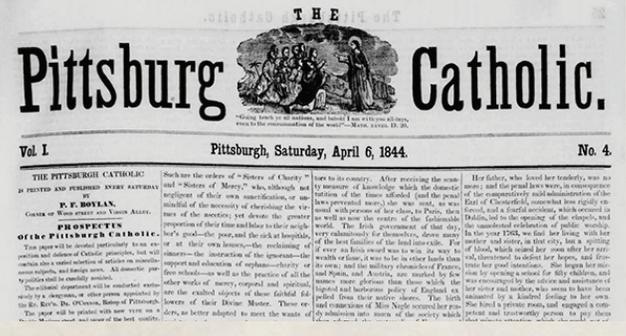


**"... the Catholic Newspapers Program allows us to make the leap to full digital preservation..."**

**--Kathleen Dodds, Director of Special Collections, Walsh Library, Seton Hall University**

**"The leading online sources ... are largely focused on municipal and trade newspapers with Catholic newspapers conspicuously under-represented. [...] But think how much more significant it would be if all Catholic newspapers were online, ensuring that the Catholic tradition, experiences, and views of Catholics continue to be part of the American dialog."**

**--Dr. Timothy Meagher, Associate Professor of History, Curator of American Catholic History Collection and University Archivist, The Catholic University of America**



**"Students love to click to their sources, rather than going through hard-bound newspaper issues in the stacks."**

**--Paula Kane, Marous Chair of Catholic Studies, University of Pittsburgh**

