

## Faithful Catholics of MD/DC, Inc.



November 18, 2007

Monsignor Walter R. Rossi, Rector  
Basilica of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception  
400 Michigan Avenue NE  
Washington, DC 20017-1566

“I am the Lord thy God. Thou shalt have no strange gods before me.” The First Commandment

Msgr Rossi:

On Tuesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, within the Upper Church of the Shrine, the First Commandment was violated with the apparent permission of those entrusted with that sacred place. The blasphemous occasion was the “28<sup>th</sup> Annual Interfaith Concert”. Of course, the word “interfaith” is nothing more than a language trick designed to mask the reality of the idolatry celebrated on the main altar, in direct contravention of everything for which the Shrine stands. Our Lord was mocked while Buddha, Allah and other false “gods” were placed on a par with Him – in His own house! Monsignor, that was an inexcusable outrage!

I myself attended that debacle, and bear first-hand testimony to the blasphemous idolatry that you and Shrine staff allowed to occur! I watched as scantily-clad Hindu dancing girls pranced and galloped in front of the altar, chanting their dirge. I saw Sikhs, in gowns and turbans, plopped in front of the altar as they wailed to their bongo drums and sitars. The program, distributed in the Upper Church lobby, contained language that stated that false idols were equal to God. For example, we read on page 10 that “Brahma is the Creator” and “Shiva is the source of cosmic harmony and peace.” (We enclose a copy of the pagan screed). There is no justification for that nonsense! Yes, yes, we all want peace, but that will come only when all acknowledge their allegiance to the One True God and the One True Church. You know that! “Respect for other creeds?” No sir. We respect these people because they are indeed made in God’s image and likeness, but we do not hold their errors on a par with the Way, Truth and Life that is Our Lord Himself. Again – you know that!

Monsignor, as Rector of the Basilica, is it not your duty to protect its sanctity? That didn't happen on November 13<sup>th</sup>; quite the opposite occurred. Moreover, while we would want to think that you were simply unaware of the shenanigans that would transpire at the concert, we understand that this group held a similar event on November 9, 2004. Thus you and/or Shrine staff were fully aware of the blasphemy that would most likely happen. Why did you allow that sad history to repeat itself?

We think that reconsecration of the Basilica may be required, if not actual exorcism of the same as well. At the very least, we implore you never to allow such travesty to happen at the Basilica again. Please be advised that we are posting this letter to our website, [www.restore-dc-catholicism.com](http://www.restore-dc-catholicism.com), with proof of delivery, and will also post any response (or lack thereof) to the site as well.

We eagerly anticipate your response and will keep you and the Basilica in our prayers.

Sincerely,

Janet M. Baker  
President

Cc: Most Reverend Donald W. Wuerl  
Archbishop of Washington