

January 4, 2006
Feast of Elizabeth Ann Seton

Dear Friends:

I am so very pleased to announce the 2006 *Catholic-Labor Network Gathering* on Saturday, February 11, 2006 in Washington, D.C. As in the past, our meeting will be part of the larger Social Ministry Gathering of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (February 12-15, 2006). Our meeting and the *Social Ministry Gathering* will be hosted at the Capital Hilton, a great union hotel, and only a few blocks from the AFL-CIO and the White House.

Fr. Donald McIlvane, a priest of the Diocese of Pittsburgh and the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO chaplain, will begin our day with Mass at 8:00 a.m. at the hotel. At 9:30 a.m., Prof. Joseph Holland, professor of philosophy and religion at St. Thomas University in Miami, and president of *Pax Romana - USA*, will give a reflection on modern Catholic Social Teaching.

At 11:00 a.m., representatives of *Casa de Maryland* will share with us the challenges and struggles of Day Laborers. Lunch will be served at 12:30 p.m. A speaker, who is still to be confirmed, will share with us a relevant issue related to the work of the Catholic-Labor Network. We will close our day by opening the deck for participants to share issues, activities, and news of what is happening in their part of the country.

On Sunday, February 12, 2006, we will join together at the 8:30 Mass at St. Matthew Cathedral (1725 Rhode Island Ave, N.W.), followed by a continental brunch. St. Matthew is only a few blocks from the Capital Hilton. Presently, our Washington, D.C. members are organizing this portion of our program, and as details are confirmed, we will post information to the special web page at www.catholiclabor.org.

I have enclosed registration materials with this invitation. You may also download the entire registration packet at <http://www.usccb.org/sdwp/2006reg.pdf>. Registration is available online at <http://www.usccb.org/sdwp> (Click on "To Register on Line, click here.")

As I write this letter, the Church celebrates the feast of Elizabeth Anne Seton. She dedicated her life to serving the poor and the new immigrants in the United States. Through her intercessions, may we be energetic in the Lord's vineyards in 2006.

Yours in Christ Jesus,

Fr. Sinclair Oubre, J.C.L.

Fr. Sinclair Oubre, J.C.L (phone: 409-985-8010)
Coordinator

P.S.: Those priests who wish to concelebrate on Saturday or Sunday are invited to bring their own albs and stoles.