

The bishops and translations

Maureen Fiedler | Nov. 19, 2009 NCR Today

Does anyone else feel like the U.S. Bishops are living in the 13th century? They are actually spending time together ? precious time ? trying to decide whether or not to accept grammatically inaccurate and awkward translations of the prayer of the Mass. It's time they simply told the Vatican that such culturally specific and pastoral issues are their province. English translations need to be done by English speakers who use the American idiom. (And the American idiom these days, by the way, is gender inclusive ? although the U.S. Bishops themselves still have a way to go on that point).

Instead of arguing over nouns and verbs, the Bishops could be spending time on really pressing issues like climate change, hunger in the world, nuclear disarmament, or building an interfaith movement.

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