

Webathon Day 3, another matching grant

Dennis Coday | Apr. 23, 2013 NCR Today
Webathon 2013

Wow! Did you see and hear [the morning video with Fr. Richard Rohr](#) [1]? He said *National Catholic Reporter* "has filled a central, foundation gap in American journalism and church journalism and Catholic journalism in particular. I really can't imagine what would not have been said, if *National Catholic Reporter* did not exist. In what they allow us to say, to think and to feel because *National Catholic Reporter* exists."

To hear such high praise is both daunting and humbling.

It is daunting and humbling because I believe it is true, and I feel the weight of responsibility to carry on this nearly 50-year traditional of telling the truth about the church and our nation.

Tom Fox, *NCR* publisher and former editor, and I were talking the other day about what *NCR* is, what it means, what its mission is. Tom's answer was straightforward.

"I hope that people think of us as just journalists, and our beat is the American Catholic church," he said. Just journalists telling the story of the Catholic church. That's a worthy and noble job to have.

That is the idea that I will reflect on during this third day of the Webathon. We have done well these last two days. We are on track to surpassing \$100,000. The little thermometer on the [Webathon Central](#) [2] page shows us at just a hair over \$40,000. That is fantastic. So many of you have already been so generous. Thank you.

But to stay on track, we need to be over \$50,000 by this time tomorrow. Please [donate now](#) [3] and help us keep this momentum rolling.

Past Webathons tell us that day three can be a drag -- the early momentum of the Webathon slows and we hit dry spells. Help that not to happen today. Not this year. Let's keep the momentum rolling. Let's raise \$15,000 today. [Donate now](#). [3]

To help us on our way, we have a matching grant. Jeanne Marie Lee has pledged to match the first \$1,000 that comes in today. Let's not let Jeanne Marie down. Jeanne Marie and her late husband, [Rhoady R. Lee Jr.](#) [4], are longtime generous supporters of *NCR*. Matching Jeanne Marie's pledge is one way to say thank you for their years of dedication to the *NCR* mission.

Let me end this update with one last quote from Fr. Richard Rohr: "Please do all you can to help *National Catholic Reporter*."

What does *NCR* mean to you? You've heard what Tom Fox, Richard Rohr and I think of *NCR*. What do you think? Let us know at: [What does NCR mean to you?](#) [5]

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Links:

[1] <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fAgn3XxSUEc>

[2] <http://ncronline.org/webathon>

[3]

<https://npo.networkforgood.org/Donate/Donate.aspx?npoSubscriptionId=1001385&code=NetworkforGood>

[4] <http://ncronline.org/blogs/ncr-today/catholic-philanthropist-rhoady-lee-jr-laid-rest>

[5] <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1tVcSmhLCTWzoTpTyQt02-I48GHZ8mOUxUXqfg6kkGtU/viewform>