

Webathon Day 4: Being Catholic

Dennis Coday | Apr. 24, 2013 NCR Today
Webathon 2013

Day 4 of the Webathon this morning opens seemingly with contrasts on our homepage.

[The video that greeted you](#) [1] was from Benedict Sr. Joan Chittister, a longtime friend of *NCR*. Sr. Joan has written for the newspaper and for NCRonline.org and served on our board of directors at one time. Sr. Joan's video asks, "What does it mean to be really Catholic?"

Meanwhile, the endorsement at the top of the page is from The Catholic University of America student [John McCarthy](#) [2], who began blogging at NCR Today a few months ago.

Some would see these two endorsements as a contrast: Obviously John and Sr. Joan come from two generations. They couldn't be more different. Or could they?

Last week, I talked with a young woman, a university student in journalism, who is applying for our editorial internship program. She told me she knew about *NCR* because her mother is a longtime subscriber and her mother and grandmother have attended Sr. Joan's lectures at the [Chautauqua Institution](#) [3] for years and years. This prospective intern had read Joan's columns and books since she was in high school. When she learned she could work at *NCR*, she was over-the-moon ecstatic. (Which is, by the way, always a good trait to have in an intern.)

My point is that John and Sr. Joan don't represent a contrast as much as a continuum. John's message is focused on the future of the church. Sr. Joan has always been focused on the future. My hope is that *NCR* is also focused on the future.

Our 50th anniversary is only about 18 months away. As I contemplate what our founding editors, publishers and readers dreamed and hoped for 50 years ago, I see what parts of that dream have been fulfilled and what parts have not. I also see *NCR* going places and doing things our founders would never have envisioned.

Your [donation today](#) [4] will help secure *NCR*'s future. Please help now.

My dream is that when that prospective intern's granddaughter is looking for a journalism job, she will be able to apply. That's possible [with your help](#) [4].

To help you help us, Joan and Bob McGrath have pledged a matching grant of \$5,000. They will match dollar for dollar the first \$5,000 that come in today. We did well yesterday; we're still on track to make our \$100,000 total. But today is Wednesday, so we have just three days left in this year's Webathon. [Please donate now](#) [4].

Source URL (retrieved on 04/19/2014 - 22:48): <http://ncronline.org/blogs/webathon-day-4-being-catholic>

Links:

[1] http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=u53TdrSVFlw

[2] <http://ncronline.org/authors/john-mccarthy>

[3] <http://www.ciweb.org/>

[4]

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