

December 16, 2008

To the Participants at the Evangelical Catholic Conference:

It gives me great pleasure to greet you as you begin your time together at this important gathering. I was able to attend the last two meetings in the Midwest, and observed firsthand the enthusiasm and energy the groups there displayed.

I was, and continue to be, inspired by your faith commitment. As a convert myself while I was a student in Harvard Law School, I treasure the gift of faith. I encourage you to do everything you can to enkindle the flame of faith that is within you, and to share it with others. It will be your firm compass as you navigate your way through life, your anchor in life's storms, and your safe harbor at journey's end.

I regret that I cannot be present in person with you this weekend, and send you my prayerful best wishes and blessing.

Sincerely,

AD:amk

Avery Cardinal Dulles, S.J.