

# origins

CNS documentary service

## Common Declaration on 50th Anniversary of Beginning of Official Catholic-Anglican Dialogue

Pope Francis and Archbishop Welby

Pope Francis and Anglican Archbishop Justin Welby of Canterbury together charged 19 pairs of Catholic and Anglican bishops to return to their home countries and work together to promote joint prayer, joint proclamation of the Gospel and, especially, joint works of charity and justice. "Today we rejoice to commission them and send them forth in pairs as the Lord sent out the 72 disciples,"

*"Wider and deeper than our differences are the faith that we share and our common joy in the Gospel."*

the pope and archbishop said in a common declaration signed Oct. 5 at the end of an evening prayer service in Rome. "Let the message go out from this holy place, as the good news was sent out so many centuries ago, that Catholics and Anglicans will work together to give voice to our common faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, to bring relief to the suffering, to bring peace where there is conflict, to bring dignity where it is denied and trampled upon," Pope Francis and Archbishop Welby said in their statement. The vespers service, in Latin and English, was celebrated at Rome's Church of St. Gregory on the Caelian Hill, the church from which St. Gregory the Great sent St. Augustine of Canterbury and his fellow monks to evangelize England in 597. The prayer service marked the 50th anniversary of the beginning of formal Anglican-Roman Catholic ecumenical efforts with the meeting of Blessed Paul VI and Anglican Archbishop Michael Ramsey of Canterbury. Pope Francis and Archbishop Welby said in their declaration that when their predecessors launched the formal dialogue in 1966, they "recognized the 'serious obstacles' that stood in the way of a restoration of complete faith and sacramental life between us. Nevertheless, they set out undeterred." The declaration follows.

**f**ifty years ago our predecessors, Pope Paul VI and Archbishop Michael Ramsey, met in this city hallowed by the ministry and blood of the apostles Peter and Paul. Subsequently, Pope John Paul II with Archbishop Robert Runcie,

*continued on page 338*



### contents

- 337 Common Declaration  
by Pope Francis and  
Archbishop Justin Welby
- 339 Speech at Prayer Service  
by Pope Francis
- 341 Homily at Prayer Service  
by Archbishop Justin Welby
- 342 Speech at Meeting With  
Archbishop of Canterbury  
and Anglican Primates  
by Pope Francis
- 342 Speech at Meeting With  
Pope Francis  
by Archbishop Justin Welby
- 343 Report on *Amoris Laetitia*  
in the U.S.  
by the USCCB
- 346 Letter on *Amoris Laetitia*  
by Cardinal Donald W.  
Wuerl
- 348 Letter on U.S. Commission  
on Civil Rights Report  
by *Seventeen Religious  
Leaders*
- 349 Mass Celebrating 50th  
Anniversary of Chapel of  
Our Lady of Siluva  
by Archbishop Joseph E.  
Kurtz
- 351 There Are No 'Minority'  
Voters  
by Bishop Edward K.  
Braxton
- 352 Datebook and On File

**Oct. 27, 2016**  
**Volume 46**  
**Number 22**