

the National Association of Magistrates, 3/31/00). This takes on many forms, many formulations, but all are directed to the same end—the protection of the human person and society. Moreover, I speak of the perennial challenge in our day to work for a “new humanism.” This “new humanism” finds its basis in the dignity of the human person and his/her inalienable rights. “The dignity of the person is the most precious possession of an individual. As a result, the value of one person transcends all the material world . . . The dignity of the person constitutes the foundation of the equality of all people among themselves . . . The dignity of the person is the indestructible property of every human being. The force of this affirmation is based on the uniqueness and irrepeatability of every person” (cf. *Cristifideles Laici*, no. 37). You and I are repeatedly called to be advocates for this “new humanism.”

From the Christian viewpoint, the challenge is to rediscover the central reality of Christ who “fully reveals man to himself and brings to light his most high calling” (*Gaudium et Spes*, 22). Quite specifically, “Christian humanism implies first of all an openness to the Transcendent. It is here that we find the truth and the grandeur of the human person, the only creature in the visible world capable of self-awareness and recognizing that he is surrounded by that supreme Mystery which both reason and faith call God” (Pope John Paul II, *Address to University Professors*, no. 4, 9/9/00). Pope John Paul II applies this insight further saying: “The humanism which we desire advocates a vision of society centered on the human person and his inalienable rights, on the values of justice and peace, on a correct relationship between individuals, society and the State, on the logic of solidarity and subsidiarity. It is a humanism capable of giving a soul to economic progress itself, so that it may be directed to ‘the promotion of each individual and of the whole person’” (Pope John Paul II, *Address to University Professors*, no. 6, 9/9/00).

In being advocates for this “new humanism” within the complexity of our culture and society, a powerful Advocate is being sent to stand by you. That Advocate is the Holy Spirit. It is the particular role of God the Holy Spirit to reveal God’s Word and Will, and to help us in understanding and responding to His divine plan for us. Indeed, Jesus makes this very promise in today’s gospel. “If you love me and obey the commands I give you, I will ask the Father and He will give you another Advocate—to be with you always; the Spirit of truth . . . You can recognize Him because he remains with you and will be within you” (Jn. 14:15-17).

Catholic theology, reflecting on scripture, enumerates seven particular gifts of the Holy Spirit: Knowledge, Counsel, Understanding, Wisdom, Piety, Fortitude, and Fear of the Lord. These gifts of the Spirit are permanent dispositions which make us docile and open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit. These are gifts for which we pray in a special way during this Mass of the Holy Spirit, this Jubilee Red Mass.

Knowledge is the gift which helps us to know God and what He expects of us through His self revelation in creation and in the person of Jesus Christ.

Counsel is the gift from the Holy Spirit in which one receives the very counsel of God—divine advice. It is insight from the Holy Spirit which leads to a correct assimilation of the knowledge we have discovered.

Understanding assists us in perceiving the hidden meanings of reality. As St. Thomas Aquinas observes: “There are many kinds of things that are hidden within, which human knowledge has to penetrate, so to speak. Under the appearances of a thing lies hidden

its essence, under words lies hidden their meaning, and under effects lie hidden their causes—and vice versa.” (cf. *Summa Theologica II/II, Q.8, art. 1*).

Wisdom enables one to know the purposes and plan of God. It gives us the ability to see life and its meaning, as well as persons, events and things, from the divine point of view, and to recognize the inner value of persons, events and things.

Piety leads one to a devotion to God. “As a gift of the Holy Spirit, piety moves us to worship God Who is the Father of all, and also to do good to others out of reverence for God” (Our Sunday Visitor Catholic Encyclopedia, p. 784).

Fortitude provides the internal strength and courage to be firm in difficulty and constant in doing good.

Lastly, there is the gift of the Fear of the Lord. This is not a servile fear, but a filial fear, the desire not to offend because of love, not fear. This gift ensures our awe and reverence before God and helps us to acknowledge our radical dependence upon Him.

As we advocate the “new humanism,” which centers on the human person and protects and ensures his or her inalienable rights within the context of justice and peace, these seven inter-connected gifts provide much encouragement, insight and support. They are given to help you, to help you in your essential and truly important work for our world, this country and our city. They are gifts of God to each of us, gifts for which we constantly pray.

A renewed understanding of your vocation as advocates for justice emerges and is reflected so simply, yet so powerfully, in the words of one distinguished professor: “Those who enter law with the intent to bring justice to a broken world, to vindicate the rights of the weak and vulnerable, to heal broken relationships, to ensure equality to all persons \* \* \* these persons have responded to a true calling. Law for them is a vehicle of service to God and to neighbor, not simply a gateway to financial and social success” (Joseph Allegretti: *The Lawyer’s Calling: Christian Faith and Legal Practice*, p. 31).

I applaud those among you who share your legal talents with those in need, especially those who participate in the Archdiocesan Pro Bono Legal Network. For you, the practice of law truly becomes “a service to God and to your neighbor.” Yet the need for pro bono assistance keeps increasing and demands an even greater and more generous response in our day.

Those among us involved with the forging ahead of a “new humanism” must respond genuinely and faithfully. Ours is a Nation founded upon the ideal of the “inalienable rights of every person.” Our Nation leads the world in technological advancement, economic growth and military strength. Yet, there still exists a sad inequality among us in our society. I mention the following three examples in response to the challenge of the “new humanism.” First, 40 million Americans live without health care benefits, of whom 10 million are American children (U.S. News, Matthew Miller 8/18/97). Secondly, a large number of senior citizens find it difficult to afford much needed prescription drugs. Thirdly, the choice for quality education is not always available for many in our Nation. Each cries out for our collective response.

In addition, we live in a culture where distrust and lying are only too evident. We must learn to speak the truth in love, to proclaim the sanctity of all human life, both of the innocent and of the guilty, from conception through every stage until natural death. The splendor of the truth must shine through the “new humanism” you advocate.

So much of your time is spent with time-sheets, agenda books, email, faxes and meetings. Your inner spirits surely thirst for something more; indeed, for time to be with the Transcendent One—the Holy One—the source of these seven gifts, especially wisdom and fortitude. In those treasured moments, your minds will be enlightened and your inner spirits renewed, so that your advocacy for justice and peace will be all the more authentic and real.

Yes, the Jubilee challenges you who are servants of justice and peace to be advocates for a “new humanism,” which will permeate your legal decisions, your legislative processes and your diplomatic service. May the Holy Spirit—the Advocate—be at your side, as together we move forward in joy and in hope! Amen.●

#### IN RECOGNITION OF MS. YALILE RAMIREZ

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, at the Hispanic College Funds Annual Scholarship Awards Banquet earlier this month, Ms. Yalile Ramirez, recipient of the Hispanic College Fund Award for 2000-2001, gave a speech regarding the upliftment of the Hispanic-American community which I found to be extremely insightful. I rise today not only to insert her remarks into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, but also to salute an extraordinary young woman with a bright future ahead of her.

Ms. Ramirez was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois. She is currently a senior at Michigan State University, where she is pursuing a double Bachelor’s degree in International Relations and Finance. In May of this year, she graduated from the University’s James Madison College of International Relations, so she is now focusing her efforts on her financial studies.

In addition to receiving the Hispanic College Fund Award, Ms. Ramirez has received the Bill Gates Millennium Scholar Award. She made the Dean’s List in 1998, 1999 and 2000, and in 1997 was presented with the National Dean’s List Award.

Ms. Ramirez is a member of the Women in Business Student Association, the Phi Beta Delta National Honor Society, the American Advertising Federation: Research Team Leader, and the Phi Sigma Pi Co-Ed National Honors Fraternity. She is also a Mentor Program Coordinator, and spends her remaining free time with aerobics, running and volunteering.

I applaud Ms. Ramirez on her many achievements both on and off the campus of Michigan State University. She is not only a dedicated student but also a dedicated member of society, concerned with a great deal more than her own success. As is clearly illustrated in her remarks, she cares deeply about the upliftment of America’s Latino population, and believes that this upliftment can best occur through economic empowerment—attaining positions of leadership within the business community. In the not too distant future, I look forward to seeing Ms. Yalile Ramirez become one of these

leaders. With that having been said, I ask to print her remarks of October 5, 2000, in the RECORD.

The remarks follow:

REMARKS BY MS. YALILE REMIREZ AT THE HISPANIC COLLEGE FUND, INC., ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS BANQUET

OCTOBER 5, 2000

Good evening ladies and gentlemen, my name is Yalile Ramirez. I am a senior, pursuing a double Bachelor's degree in International Relations and Finance at Michigan State University. First, I would like to thank Sprint for making my scholarship possible. I would also like to thank the Hispanic College Fund for granting me the honor of speaking to you on this special night. When I started to think about what I could share with you this evening, I asked myself "What am I an authority on?" So, I decided to talk about the one thing I have mastered, being me.

In some aspects, my involvement in the Latino community has differed from what some of my fellow peers and faculty members believe it should be. When I first attended MSU, I was not fully aware of all the issues confronting the Latino community in the U.S. And I did not have any Latino role models to whom I could turn to for guidance, with the exception of my parents. However, I was aware of the inequities embedded within our society. I knew we were a different color, I knew we spoke a different language and I knew many in America did not welcome this diversity. At the college level, my experiences with fellow Latino students and faculty members has heightened my interest and sensitivity to Latino issues. I strongly support our community and participate in a select number of activities. However, the career path I have chosen also differs from those that many have elected to pursue; such as education, criminal justice, political science and pre-law.

While many of them are demanding justice through political rights and representation, I seek economic empowerment. Economic empowerment is derived from our continual plight for justice, political power and independence. We can look back to our history dating back to the American Revolution. Was it all for greater religious freedom or greater economic freedom?

My family has struggled economically and socially in pursuit of the American dream for our family and for generations yet to come. As first generation American Latina, I recognize the importance of economic empowerment in our community. While possessing a flagrant entrepreneurial spirit and great patriotism to the American form of capitalism; resources, capital, and networks are salient to real empowerment. But, where do we go to obtain these resources? To whom do we turn to with confidence, respect and trust? Well, ladies and gentlemen, we are among those resources right here, right now. With a vigorous economy and a fast growing Latino population, our Latino community is coming of age. How will we succeed? Latino business leadership is paramount to attaining prosperity in our communities and in sustaining future success. By seizing this opportunity and creating a network of Latino businesses and business leaders, we can actualize a network of resources and capital for future entrepreneurs. Latino business leadership has a profound impact in our Latino community by creating opportunities to produce and access resources. For me, then, real economic empowerment and leadership will assist in our overall pursuit of our economic well-being and prosperity. We have to

expand the opportunities to enter the business sector. Once we enter and thrive in that arena, it is imperative to sustain and share our economic power with a new generation of leaders. Economic empowerment. To put it another way, I choose a quote from the Chairman of the Hispanic College Fund, Mr. Dario Marquez.

"What we want is a seat at the table of dialogue and debate in government, academia, and in industry—not a seat that has been assigned—but as many seats as our abilities and talents will afford."

Finally, I have been honored to have been selected as a scholarship recipient of the HCF. I would like to also congratulate the other recipients gathered on this stage tonight and all the others enrolled in colleges and universities across the country. On our behalf and on behalf of our families and communities, we thank all the companies, businesses, individuals, and events that donated the funds that helped us afford a college education. And, I am especially grateful to Sprint for making my scholarship possible. This scholarship is not only monetary assistance but also an investment in a woman with great potential for realizing future success. I have struggled with economic and social issues and I firmly believe that education is the key that will unlock our full potential as Latinos and ultimately contribute to the economic prosperity of America. Let us continue to pursue a better future for our and future generations.●

#### IN RECOGNITION OF DAVID M. LANEY

● Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Mr. David M. Laney, who soon will complete his term as a member of the Texas Transportation Commission. Governor George W. Bush appointed Mr. Laney to the commission in April 1995, designating him chairman and Commissioner of Transportation. In April 2000, he stepped down as Commissioner of Transportation, serving the remainder of his term as a member of the commission.

During his term on the commission, Mr. Laney has been the champion of the state's efforts to increase the state's share of federal transportation dollars returning to Texas. As chairman, he was a partner to the Texas Congressional delegation's efforts to develop fairer highway funding formulas, promoting the efforts of a coalition of "donor" states to work with Congress toward achieving at least a 90.5 percent return on payments into the Highway Trust Fund. As a result of our efforts, Texas received an increase of more than \$700 million annually in federal highway funds and David Laney deserves a great deal of the credit.

In addition, he promoted increased federal funding for the nation's general aviation and reliever airports, which Congress provided in the Aviation Investment Reform Act for the 21st Century (AIR 21). Finally, Mr. Laney has been a strong advocate for the state's small urban and rural transit systems, working with Congress to provide much needed discretionary funding to

address the vehicle replacement needs of these vital transportation systems, the most extensive in the nation. With these additional funds for Texas transportation programs, the commission will be better able to meet the tremendous transportation demands of the growing regional and international trade traffic in Texas.

With a look to the future, as Commissioner of Transportation Mr. Laney led the Texas Department of Transportation in its efforts to obtain the flexible financing tools it needs to help address transportation needs in Texas. He was successful in working with the Texas Legislature to create the Texas Turnpike Authority Division of the department, which provides toll-funding options for the state's major transportation projects. With his strong support and encouragement, the division has applied for and expects to receive an \$800 million loan under the federal Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act for a major Central Texas turnpike project. Under Mr. Laney's leadership, the commission has used the Texas State Infrastructure Bank, authorized under the National Highway System Designation Act of 1995, to provide needed assistance to localities to help move forward important transportation projects.

Mr. Laney also initiated a major Texas border strategy to address the demands of international trade traffic.

Throughout his tenure on the commission, Mr. Laney has provided strong and confident leadership to the Texas Department of Transportation, promoting the development of a first-class Texas transportation system. His legacy is a transportation agency with a menu of solid financial and operational tools providing a safe, effective, and environmentally-sensitive transportation system for the people of Texas and the nation. His dedication to transportation and his strong leadership on the commission will be missed.

Mr. President, I know my fellow Texans join me in this expression of appreciation to David Laney for his exemplary leadership on the Texas Transportation Commission.●

#### RETIREMENT OF THE HONORABLE CLAYTON E. PREISEL

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the Honorable Clayton E. Preisel, who is retiring on December 31, 2000, after an extraordinary career spanning over 50 years. During this time, he has served in the Marine Corps, been a teacher and school administrator, and, for the past 18 years, presided over the Lapeer County Probate Court. Whatever the forum, Judge Preisel has been a leader and an inspiration to those around him.

Judge Preisel was born on January 29, 1927. He graduated from Imlay City High School in 1945, and departed for