

Dear Brother Priest,

You may have heard that there is a scheduled presidential visit to the Saint John Paul II National Shrine this morning. Here is a statement from Archbishop Gregory that we are about to release to the media and public:

"I find it baffling and reprehensible that any Catholic facility would allow itself to be so egregiously misused and manipulated in a fashion that violates our religious principles that call us to defend the rights of all people even those with whom we might disagree. Saint Pope John Paul II was an ardent defender of the rights and dignity of human beings. His legacy bears vivid witness to that truth. He certainly would not condone the use of tear gas and other deterrents to silence, scatter or intimidate them in order for a photo opt in front of a place of worship and peace."

Sincerely in Christ, Reverend Daniel B. Carson Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia