

February 25, 2011

Please insert this information (long or short form) in your Sunday Bulletin.

*****Insert for March 6*****



**CALL TO CONVERSION AND HOLINESS
The Sacrament of Confession
What comes first?**

Long Form

Cardinal Rigali's Pastoral Letter outlines the initiatives being undertaken for our local Church. The motivation for this entire pastoral effort is the Christian call to conversion and holiness. It would be tempting for any of us to want to "jump ahead" to the holiness part! It seems so much more attractive and positive. But this is not the message of Jesus and it is He whom we are called to follow.

In the parable of the two houses exposed to the winds and the rain (Matthew 7:24-27), Jesus reminds us that it was the foundation that made all the difference. Both houses were exposed to the same dangers but only the one with the firm foundation remained standing. The foundation for holiness must be conversion because that is the constant call of Jesus, just as it was for His herald, John the Baptist. This is not a discouraging thought but an exciting challenge to be honest in examining ourselves in the light of the gospel.

You are invited to read Cardinal Rigali's Pastoral Letter that can be found on the home page of the Archdiocese – www.archphila.org.

Short Form

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