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TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Today's Catholic Receives National Honors

Today's Catholic newspaper was honored with four national awards at the Catholic Media Convocation 2007 held May 23-25 in New York City. Today's Catholic was honored with third place in the category of "General Excellence" by the Catholic Press Association of the United States at its annual convention last week. First place in the 17,000 to 40,000 circulation category went to the newspaper of the Archdiocese of Detroit, while second place was received by the North Texas Catholic newspaper of the Diocese of Fort Worth. Honorable Mentions were given to newspapers from the Archdiocese of Miami, the Archdiocese of Boston, the Diocese of San Diego, the Diocese of Nashville and the Diocese of Green Bay. Judging of the newspaper was done by the American Press Institute in New Jersey. Comments regarding Today's Catholic included, *"Loved the emphasis on local. If you live in a San Antonio parish, this paper is definitely keeping you in mind. Liked the mix of national with a local angle and local stories. Enjoyed the design."*

Also, staff writer Carol Baass Sowa received a second place award in the category of "Best Personality Profile" in the 17,000 to 40,000 circulation category. The article honored, "Gilbert Tuhaboyne Runs with the Message of Forgiveness," appeared on the front page of the May 12 edition. Judges comments were, "This story hooks you right away, capturing the riveting details of genocide without getting maudlin or preaching. The writer leavens the story with just enough detail to allow the reader to feel both the horror of Gilbert's experience and the hope that he will survive and somehow prosper. It's a deeply compelling piece that allows readers to see what made the man and to appreciate the enormity of what

he has forgiven. Without saying so, the author makes clear that Gilbert's life holds powerful lessons for us all."

In addition, Sowa was also honored at the convention with the Priests for Life "Bernardin-O'Connor Award for Pro-Life Journalism." The honor was announced at an awards luncheon on May 25. The purpose of the award, as told by Father Frank Pavone, director of Priests for Life, is to carry on the message, articulated by both Cardinal Joseph Bernardin and Cardinal John O'Connor, that there is no gap between "right to life" issues and "social justice" issues. The award was given for a lead article published in the Aug. 4 edition titled, "A decision for life." Lastly, Editor Jordan McMorrough received the top Honorable Mention listing for the National Right to Life 10th Annual Excellence in Journalism Award. The award recognizes outstanding journalism in the interest of the most vulnerable among us – the unborn, the elderly and people with disabilities. The story honored was titled, "Hondo family fills big new home with God's love of life," and appeared on the front page last April 28. The first place honor went to the Archdiocese of Kansas City, while other Honorable Mentions were awarded to the Archdiocese of Milwaukee and the Archdiocese of Portland.

We thank all of our colleagues in ministry for their assistance and collaboration to help us spread the Good News of Christ throughout the Archdiocese of San Antonio and beyond.