

Monthly Highlights

March 2013

International Interreligious Affairs

March 4 – Houston

The AJC Houston RO collaborated with the Rothko Chapel that had invited me to deliver a lecture on Catholic-Jewish relations on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the Second Vatican Council. See :-

http://www.rothkochapel.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=204:jewish-catholic-reconciliation-where-have-we-been-where-are-we-going-&catid=1:public-programs&Itemid=43



The Houston AJC office also arranged for me to meet with a gathering of Christian leaders from a wide spectrum of Protestant denominations to speak on the situation of Christians in Israel (and the PA) and on Israel.

In addition I addressed the local AJC Board on the subject of Religions and State in Israel.

March 6- Dallas,

The AJC Dallas RO collaborated with Thanksgiving Square, the interfaith center downtown



Dallas in holding an interfaith event

See:-

<http://northdallasgazette.com/2013/02/21/thanks-giving-squares-interfaith-council-and-the-american-jewish-committee-welcome-rabbi-david-rosen-on-mar-6/>

In addition the Dallas RO scheduled two other events that I addressed – one an intimate AJC



gathering; and the other, a public event at the Dallas JCC on Religion, Politics and Civil Society State in Israel. This was video recorded, see:- http://fora.tv/2013/03/06/The_Schism_in_Israel_Religion_Politics_Civil_Society

March 19/20 - Rome, -Installation of Pope Francis

I was honored to be invited by the Vatican to attend the installation ceremony of Pope Francis and to meet with him the next day.

With Pope Francis at the Vatican



With Bhai Sahib Mohinder Singh at the installation of Pope Francis

While in Rome I met with the leadership of the Holy See's Commission for Religious Relations with Jewry; the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Relations; and the Pontifical Council for Culture.

I also met with the leadership of the Community of Sant Egidio (www.santegidio.org)with which we have very close relations.

While in Rome I was interviewed by the media, in particular by Reuters TV. This video interview appeared on various media outlets, see:- <http://youtu.be/8WJel9i-7xE>

see also:- <http://www.religionnews.com/2013/03/20/pope-francis-says-atheists-can-be-allies-for-the-church/>

<http://www.ita.org/news/article/2013/03/20/3122636/poe-francis-tells-jewish-leaders-they-have-special-spiritual-bond>

http://www.google.it/url?sa=t&source=web&cd=1&ved=0CCwQqQlWAA&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.religionnews.com%2F2013%2F03%2F20%2Fpope-francis-says-atheists-can-be-allies-for-the-church%2F&ei=Hx5KUcz5DITcPeWqglAL&usg=AFQjCNHVMt-MdO0hgPUm7ywBRMmt_WLjrw

Reference was also made to my participation in the Papal installation ceremony in the Israeli Ynet service which focused on Pope Francis' relationship with Rabbi Skorka of the Rabbinical Seminary in Buenos Aires. See:-

<http://www.ynet.co.il/articles/0,7340,L-4358468,00.html>

Additional Media interviews

I had given dozens of media interviews immediately after the election of Pope Francis.

Press interviews included the JTA (see

<http://www.jta.org/news/article/2013/03/13/3121966/new-pope-francis-i-is-argentinian-cardinal-jorge-maria-bergoglio>);

[the Jewish Week](http://www.thejewishweek.com/news/international-news/new-pope-seen-sensitive-jewish-concerns) (see <http://www.thejewishweek.com/news/international-news/new-pope-seen-sensitive-jewish-concerns> ;

[and](#) RNS (Religion News Service). See

http://www.google.it/url?sa=t&source=web&cd=1&ved=0CCwQqQlWAA&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.religionnews.com%2F2013%2F03%2F20%2Fpope-francis-says-atheists-can-be-allies-for-the-church%2F&ei=Hx5KUcz5DITcPeWqglAL&usq=AFQjCNHVMt-MdOOhgPUm7ywBRMmt_WLjrw

as well as The Jerusalem Post; The Jewish News, London; and Haaretz;

Radio interviews included ; IBA English Radio News; BBC World Service – Live on "World Update"; Polish National Radio; and WABC/Talk Radio "Religion on the Line".

TV interviews included RAI Italian TV; Ynet's audio-visual section; and Terrasancta TV, the international Catholic TV station.

Prior to my departure for the Papal installation, AJC posted a video recording with me in the "Live from..." series. see <http://youtu.be/ucsHNGWMOww>

Thereafter I continued to give interviews re Pope Francis, e.g.

<http://www.zenit.org/en/articles/rabbi-david-rosen-jewish-catholic-relationship-will-be-important-focus-of-francis-pontificate> (this interview went out around the Catholic world in four languages).