### Franklin D. Roosevelt — "The Great Communicator" The Master Speech Files, 1898, 1910-1945

Series 2: "You have nothing to fear but fear itself:" FDR and the New Deal

File No. 654

1933 October 4

New York City, NY - National Conference Catholic Charities In the midst of the machine problems of material things --- in the machine age of invention of finance, of international suspicion and renewed armament --every one of us must gain satisfaction and strength in the knowledge that social justice is becoming an ever-growing factor and influence in almost every part of the world. With every passing year I become more confident that humanity is moving forward to the practical application of the teachings of Christianity as they affect the individual lives of men and women.

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Seven genths ago this very day, standing at the portals of the Capitol at Washington, about to assume the responsibilities of the Presidency, I told the people of America that we were going to face facts, no matter how hard or difficult those facts might be, and that it was my firm belief that the only thing we had to fear was fear itself.

I believed then -- and I know now-- that our people would support action that sought the goal of giving every man his due. Leadership, I have tried for the format fact has been the FMM response -- the wholehearted A response -- of America. We have recaptured and rekindled our pioneering spirit. We have insisted that it shall always be a spirit of justice, a spirit of teamwork, a spirit of sacrifice, and above all, a spirit of neighborliness.

We have sought to adjust the processes of industrial and agricultural life, and in so doing we have sought to view the picture as a whole. Revival of industry, redemption of agriculture, reconstruction of banking, development of public works, the lifting of crushing debt -- all these in every part of the Nation call for a willingness to sacrifice individual gains, to work together

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for the public welfare and for the success of a broad national program of recovery. We have to have courage and discipline, and vision to blaze the new trails in life;; but underlying all our efforts is the conviction that men cannot live unto themselves alone. A democracy must be bound together by the ties of neighborliness.

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That tis has been the guiding spirit of your work for the sick, for children in need, and for the aged and friendless. And you who have participated in the actual day-to-day work of practical and useful charity understand well that no program of recovery can suddenly restore all our people to BEINX self-support. This is the time when you and I know that though we have proceeded a portion of the way, the longer, harder part still lies ahead for us to redouble our efforts to care for those who must still depend upon relief, to prevent the disintegration of home life, and to stand by the victims of the depression until it is definitely past.

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Out of this picture we are working out a new science of social treatment and rehabilitation -- working it out through an unselfish partnership on the great the great through private social service agencies with the agencies

of Government itself. From the point of view of the fixing of responsibilities, the prevention of overlapping and of waste and the coordination of efforts, we are making enormous strides with every passing day. But back of the cooperative leadership which is showing itself in every part of the Country, there are two other vital reasons for XMEX maintenance of the efforts of the churches and other non-governmental groups.

The first of these is that much as we strive for the broad WMM principles of social justice, the actual application of these principles is of necessity an individual thing, - a thing which touches individual lives and individual families. No governmental organization in all history has been able to keep the human touch to the same extent as church and private effort. Government can do many things better than private associations or citizens, but in the last analysis success depends on the personal contact between neighbor and neighbor.

The other reason lies in the fact that the people of the United States

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and to practice that belief, have, in every case, discovered sooner or later that they are tilting in vain against an inherent, essential, undying quality, and indeed necessity, of the human race -- a quality and a necessity in fact, which in every century have proved an essential to permanent progress.

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going support throughout the whole Nation of efforts such as yours. The spirit of our people has not been daunted. It has come through the trials of these days unafraid. We have ventured and we have won; we shall venture further and we shall win. The traditions of a great people have been enriched. In our measures of recovery and of relief we have preserved all that is best in our history and are building thereon a new structure -- strong and firm and permanent.

I can never express in words what the loyalty it and trust of the Nation has meant to me. Not for a moment have I doubted that we would climb out of the valley of gloom. Always have I been certain that we would conquer, because the spirit of America springs from faith -- faith in the beloved institutions of our land, and a true and abiding faith in the divine guidance

of God.

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#### ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT TO THE CONFERENCE DINNER NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES GRAND BALLROOM, WALDORF ASTORIA HOTEL October 4, 1933

Cardinal Hayes, Your Excellency, ladies and gentlemen:

Coming down through the crowd this evening, my old friend, Monsignor Keegan, paid me the nicest compliment I have had since the fourth of March because he said, "Remember, way back before the fourth of March, when you said you would come to this dinner in October? And now you have come."

In the midst of problems of material things -- in the machine age of invention <u>and</u> of finance, <u>and</u> of international suspicion and renewed armaments -- <u>I think</u> that every one of us must gain satisfaction and a strength in the knowledge that social justice is becoming an ever-growing factor and influence in almost every part of the world <u>today</u>. With every passing year I become more confident that humanity is moving forward to the practical application of the teachings of Christianity as they affect the individual lives of men and women <u>everywhere</u>.

<u>I think</u> it is fitting that this annual National Conference of Catholic Charities should celebrate also, <u>at the same</u> <u>time</u>, the centennial of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. I like to remember the <u>day a hundred years ago</u>, the taunt of atheists, <u>the taunt of</u> (and) the enemies of the Christian religion in the Paris of 1833, when they demanded of the churches, "Show us your works." Yes, I like to remember it because of the

### Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

This is a transcript made by the White House stenographer from his shorthand notes taken at the time the speech was made. Underliming indicates words extemportaneously midded to the previously and the speech was prepared reading copy tert. Words in a specific state of when the speech was delivered, though they appear in the previously prepared reading copy text.

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Monsignor Keegan has mentioned the fact that seven months ago this very day, standing at the portals of the Capitol at Washington, about to assume the responsibilities of the Presidency, I told the people of America that we were going to face facts, no matter how hard and how difficult those facts might be, and that it was my firm belief that the only thing we had to fear was fear itself.

I believed then -- and I know now -- that our people would support definite action that sought the goal of giving every man his due. Leadership, I have tried to give, but the great and the outstanding fact, my friends, has been the response -- the wholehearted response -- of America. As we have recaptured and rekindled our pioneering spirit. We have insisted that it shall always be a spirit of justice, a spirit

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of teamwork, a spirit of sacrifice, and, above all, a spirit of neighborliness.

We have sought to adjust the processes of industrial and agricultural life, and in so doing we have sought to view the picture as a whole. Revival of industry, redemption of agriculture, reconstruction of banking, development of public works, the lifting of crushing debt -- all these in every part of the Nation call for a willingness to sacrifice individual gains, to work together for the public welfare and for the success of a broad national program of recovery. We have to have courage and discipline and vision to blaze the new trails in life; but underlying all our efforts is the conviction that men cannot live unto themselves alone. A democracy, <u>the right kind of a democracy</u>, is bound together by the ties of neighborliness.

That tie, my friends, has been the guiding spirit of your work for the sick, your work for the children in need, and for the aged and friendless. And you who have participated in the actual day-to-day work of practical and useful charity understand well that no program of recovery can suddenly restore all our people to self-support. This is the time when you and I know that though we have proceeded a portion of the way, the longer, harder part still lies ahead; to redouble our efforts to care for those who must still depend upon relief, to prevent the disintegration of home life, and to stand by the victims of the depression until it is definitely past.

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The Federal Government has inaugurated new measures of relief on a vast scale, but the Federal Government cannot, and does not intend to, take over the whole job. Many times we have insisted that every community and every state must first do their share.

Out of this picture we are developing a new science of social treatment and rehabilitation -- working it out through an unselfish partnership, <u>a partnership</u> between <u>great</u> church and private social service agencies with the agencies of Government itself. From the point of view of fixing responsibilities, the prevention of overlapping, the <u>prevention</u> of waste, and the coordination of effort, we are, all of us, making enormous strides with every passing day. But back of that cooperative leadership that is showing itself so splendidly in every part of the country, there are two other vital reasons for the maintenance of the efforts of the churches <u>in every part of the land</u> (and other non-Governmental groups).

The first of these is that much as <u>you and I</u> strive for the broad principles of social justice, the actual application of these principles is of necessity an individual thing, - a thing that touches individual lives and individual families. No governmental organization in all history has been able to keep the human touch to the same extent as church <u>effort</u> and private effort. Government can do a <u>great</u> many things better than private associations or citizens, but in the last analysis success <u>of this</u> <u>kind of work in which you are engaged</u> (in personal matters) depends

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on the personal contact between neighbor and neighbor.

I think that the other reason lies in the fact that the people of the United States still recognize, and, I believe, recognize with a firmer faith than ever before, that spiritual values count in the long run more than material values. Those <u>people in other lands, and I say this advisedly, those in other</u> <u>lands</u> who have sought by edict <u>or by law</u> to eliminate the right of mankind to believe in God and to practice that belief, have, in every <u>known</u> case, discovered sooner or later that they are tilting in vain against an inherent, essential, undying quality, indeed necessity, of the human race -- a quality and a necessity <u>in very fact</u> which in every century have proved an essential to permanent progress, <u>and I speak of religion</u>. (Applause)

Clear thinking and earnest effort and sincere faith will result in thorough-going support throughout the whole Nation of efforts such as yours. The spirit of our people has <u>not been</u> <u>blunted</u>, <u>it has</u> not been daunted. It has come through the trials of these days unafraid. We have ventured and we have won; we shall venture further and we shall win <u>again</u>. <u>Yes</u>, the traditions of a great people have been enriched. In our measures of recovery and of relief we have preserved all that is best in our history and <u>we</u> are building thereon a new structure -- strong and firm and permanent.

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been certain that we would conquer, because the spirit of America springs from faith -- faith in the beloved institutions of our land, and a true and abiding faith in the divine guidance of God. (Prolonged applause) ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT BEFORE THE CONFERENCE DINNER NEWSTRENT TEPTING MATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC CURFITIES

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October 4, 1933

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We have sought to adjust the processes of industrial and agricultural life, and in so doing we have sought to view the picture as a whole. Revival of industry, redemption of agriculture, reconstruction of banking, development of public works, the lifting of crushing debt -- sll these in every part of the Nation call for a willingness to sawrifice individual gains, to work together for the public works to have course and discipline and vision to blaze the new trails in life; but underlying all our efforts is the conviction that men cannot live unto therselves alone. A democracy must be bound together by the tiss of noighborliness.

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ADDRESS OF TE INSTITUT BEFORE TE CONTENTION DIMER NIVET TETIN NUTIONAL CONTENTION OF CATFOLIC CULRICIS

#### October 4, 1933

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# STATEMENTS FILE

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Monsignor Keegan has mentioned the fact that seven months ago this very day, standing at the portals of the Capitol at Washington, about to assume the responsibilities of the Presidency, I told the people of America that we were going to face facts, no matter how hard and how difficult those facts might be, and that it was my firm belief that the only thing we had to fear was fear itself.

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I believed then -- and I know now -- that our people would support definite action that sought the goal of giving every man his due. Leadership, I have tried to give, but the great and the outstanding fact, my friends, has been the response -- the wholehearted response -- of America. As we have recaptured and rekindled our pioneering spirit. We have insisted that it shall always be a spirit of justice, a spirit of teamwork, a spirit of sacrifice, and, above all, a spirit of neighborliness.

We have sought to adjust the processes of industrial and agricultural life, and in so doing we have sought to view the picture as a whole. Revival of industry, redemption of agriculture, reconstruction of banking, development of public works, the lifting of crushing debt -- all these in every part of the Nation call for a willingness to sacrifice individual gains, to work together for the public welfare and for the success of a broad national program of recovery. We have to have courage and discipline and vision to blaze the new trails in life; but underlying all our efforts is the conviction that men cannot live unto themselves alone. A democracy, the right kind of a democracy, is bound together by the ties of neighborliness.

That tie, my friends, has been the guiding spirit of your work for the sick, your work for the children in need, and for the aged and friendless. And you who have participated in

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the actual day-to-day work of practical and useful charity understand well that no program of recovery can suddenly restore all our people to self-support. This is the time when you and I know that though we have proceeded a portion of the way, the longer, harder part still lies ahead; to redouble our efforts to care for those who must still depend upon relief, to prevent the disintegration of home life, and to stand by the victims of the depression until it is definitely past.

The Federal Government has inaugurated new measures of relief on a vast scale, but the Federal Government cannot, and does not intend to, take over the whole job. Many times we have insisted that every community and every state must first do their share.

Out of this picture we are developing a new science of social treatment and rehabilitation -- working it out through an unselfish partnership, a partnership between great church and private social service agencies with the agencies of Government itself. From the point of view of fixing responsibilities, the prevention of overlapping, the prevention of waste, and the coordination of effort, we are, all of us, making enormous strides with every passing day. But back of that cooperative leadership that is showing

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itself so splendidly in every part of the country, there are two other vital reasons for the maintenance of the efforts of the churches in every part of the land.

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I think that the other reason lies in the fact that the people of the United States still recognize, and, I believe, recognize with a firmer faith than ever before, that spiritual values count in the long run more than material values. Those people in other lands, and I say this advisedly, those in other lands who have sought by edict or by law to eliminate the right of mankind to

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believe in God and to practice that belief, have, in every known case, discovered sconer or later that they are tilting in vain against an inherent, essential, undying quality, indeed necessity, of the human race -- a quality and a necessity in very fact which in every century have proved an essential to permanent progress, and I speak of religion.

Clear thinking and earnest effort and sincere faith will result in thorough-going support throughout the whole Nation of efforts such as yours. The spirit of our people has not been blunted, it has not been daunted. It has come through the trials of these days unafraid. We have ventured and we have won; we shall venture further and we shall win again. Yes, the traditions of a great people have been enriched. In our measures of recovery and of relief we have preserved all that is best in our history and we are building thereon a new structure -- strong and firm and permanent.

I can never express in words what the loyalty and trust of the Nation have meant to me. Not for a moment have I doubted that we would climb out of the valley of gloom. Always I have been certain that we would conquer, because the spirit of America springs from faith -- faith in the beloved

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institutions of our land, and a true and abiding faith in the divine guidance of God. ( Prodruged applace)

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In the midst of problems of material things --- in the machine age of invention, of finance, of international suspicion and renewed armament --- every one of us must gain satisfaction and s strength in the knowledge that social justice is becoming an ever-growing factor and influence in almost every part of the world. With every passing year I become more confident that humanity is moving forward to the practical application of the teachings of Christianity as they affect the individual lives of men and women.

It is fitting that this annual National Conference of Catholic Charities should celebrate also the centennial of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. I like to remember the taunt of atheists and enemies of the Christian religion in the Paris 1933, when they demanded of the churches, "Show us your works." o I the decision to show that Christianity was not dead, and that the deeds of Christians wore in accordance with their faith. when I realize that this one sectory, hast were, in their task of visitation and relief of the poor in their own homes, in hospitals and institutions, alded more than one hundred and fifty thousand families; and the other great organizations of men and women connected with all the churches in all the land are working with similar unselfishness for the alloviation of human suffering and the righting of human wrong, I an confirmed in my deep belief that God is marching on.

Seven months ago this very day, standing at the portals of the Capitol at Washington, about to assume the responsibilities of the Presidency, I told the people of America that we were going to face facts, no matter how hard of difficult those facts might be, and that it was my firm belief that the only thing we had to fear was fear itself.

I believed then - and I know now --- that our people would support definite action that sought the

goal of giving every man his due. Leadorship, I have tried to give; but the great and most importent fact has been the response — the wholehearted response — of America. We have recaptured and rekindled our pioneering spirit. We have insisted that this shall always be a spirit of justice, a spirit of teamwork, a spirit of sacrifice, and, above all, a spirit of neighborliness.

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We have sought to adjust the processes of industrial and agricultural life, and in so doing we have sought to view the picture as a whole. Revival of industry, redemption of agriculture, reconstruction of banking, development of public works, the lifting of orushing debt — all these in every part of the Nation call for a willingness to sacrifice individual gains, to work together for the public welfare and for the success of a broad national program of recovery. We have to have courage and discipline and vision to blaze the new trails in life; but underlying all our offorts is the conviction that men cannot live unto themselves alone. A denouracy, must be bound together by the ties of neighborliness.

That the has been the guiding spirit of your work for the sick, for the children in need, and for the aged and friendless. And you who have participated in the actual day-to-day work of practical and useful charity understand well that no program of recovery can suddenly restors all our people to self-support. This is the time when you and I know that though we have proceeded a portion of the way, the longer, harder part still lies ahead; and that it is for us to redouble our efforts to care for those who must still depend upon relief, to prevent the disintegration of home life, and to stand by the viotims of the depression until it is definitely past.

The Federal Government has inaugurated new measures of relief on a vast scale, but the Federal Government cannot, and does not intend, to take over the whole job. Many times There insisted that every community and every state must first do their share.

Out of this picture we are <u>developing</u> a new science of social treatment and rehabilitation working it out through an unselfish partmership, " between all ohurch and private social service agencies with the agencies of Government itself. From the point of view of the fixing of responsibilities, the prevention of ovorlapping and of waste, and the coordination of efforts, we are making enormous strides with every passing day. But back of the cooperative leadership which is showing itself. In every part of the Country, there are two other vital reasons for the maintenance of the efforts of the churches and other non-governmental groups.

The first of these is that much as we strive for the broad principles of social justice, the actual application of these principles is of necessity an individual thing, - a thing-which touches individual lives and individual families. No governmental organization in all history has been able to keep the human touch to the same extent as shurch and private

effort. Covernment can do many things better than private associations or citizens, but in the last analysis success in personal matters depends on the personal contact between neighbor and neighbor.

(The other reason lies in the fact that the people of the United States still recognize, and, I believe, recognize with firmer faith then ever before, that spiritual values count in the long run more than material values. Those who have sought by edict to eliminate the right of mankind to believe in God and to practice that belief, have, in every case, discovered sconer or later that they are tilting in vain against an inherent, essential, undying quality, and indeed necessity, of the human race -- a quality and a necessity, which in every century have proved an essential to permanent progress.

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MERX THOMAS FARRELL, MRS. SCHAIN, BISHOF JAMES A RYAN, CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY, MONSG. MICHAEL J. LAVELLE, RECTOR OF ST. FATRICK CATHEDRAL, N.Y.; MRS. NICHOLAS F. BRADY, ARCH.BISHIF J.J. MITTY, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. MAYOR JOHN F. O'BRIGN, ARCH.BISHIF J.J. MITTY, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. MAYOR JOHN F. O'BRIGN, ARCH.BISHOF FRANCIS J. L. BECKMAN, OF IOWA, MRS. FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, TATRICK CARDINAL HAYES, THE FRESIDENT, THE AFOSTOLIC DELEGATE ARCHBISHOF AMLETO GIOVANNI CICOGNANI; LIEUT-GOV. M. WILLIAM ERAY OF NEW YORK, MONSG. R. MARCELLUS WAGMER, FRESIDENT ELECT OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES, FOSTMASTER GENERAE JAMES A. FARLEY, MONSG. R ROBERT F. KEEGAN, RETIRNING FRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES, MARVIN MCINTYRE, SECRETARY TO THE FRESIDENT, MISS IN TERESA Â O'DONCHUE, THESIDENT OF CATHOLIC GIRLS CLUBS, ALFRED E. SMITH, XIXIX BISHOF JOHN B. MORRIS, LITTLE ROCK, ARK.; GEORGE XX MACDONALD and/REV. DR. WILLIAM J. KENEY, CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY, WASHINGTON, D.C.

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(Stholic Charities Speech - 10/4/33

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P.P.F.

It is fitting that this annual National Conference of Catholic Charities should celebrate also the centennial of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. I like to remember the taunt of atheists and enemies of the Christian religion in the Paris of 1833, when they demanded of the churches, "Show us your works". I like to think of the acceptance of that challenge and the decision to show that Christianity was not dead, and that the deeds of Christians WHAI were in accordance with their faith. When I them that this ene Society, last year, in their task of visitation and relief of the poor in their own homes, in hespitals and institutions, aided about one hundred and fifty thousand families; that

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That tie has been the guiding spirit of your work for the sick, for the children in need, and for the aged and friendless. And you who have participated in the actual day-to-day work of practical and useful charity understand well that no program of recovery can suddenly restore all our people to INIX self-support. This is the time when you and I know that though we have proceeded a portion of the way, the longer, harder part still ies ahead for us to redouble our efforts to care for those who must still depend upon relief, to prevent the disintegration of home life, and to stand by the victims of the depression until it is definitely past.

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