October 28, 2004—Feast of Saints Simon and Jude, Apostles

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

With this letter I commend to you the Father John A. Hardon, S.J. Media Apostolate. The Father John A. Hardon, S.J. Media Apostolate is the last of several apostolates which the late, most beloved, Father John A. Hardon, S.J. Established for the purpose of fulfilling the directives of the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council.

The Father John A. Hardon, S.J. Media Apostolate takes as its charter the Decree on Social Communications of the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council, *Inter Mirifica*. It helps parishes and other ecclesiastical institutions to use the media in as many ways as possible to communicate the Church’s teaching. Even though the Apostolate is very young, I, as Archbishop of Saint Louis, have already enjoyed the highly qualified assistance of the Apostolate in promoting the movie, *Thérèse*, in the Archdiocese of Saint Louis. Also, I look forward to working with the Father John A. Hardon, S.J. Media Apostolate in promoting a more complete observance of World Communications Day, in accord with the mind of our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II.

Those who direct and carry out the work of the Apostolate faithful to the example of the founder, are strictly united with our Holy Father and seek only to serve the Church, especially through the fostering of the fitting use of the communications media.

Asking God’s blessing upon the Father John A. Hardon, S.J. Media Apostolate, I am

Yours devotedly in Christ,

(Most Rev.) Raymond L. Burke
Archbishop of Saint Louis