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## Preface to the Proceedings

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## Preface to Proceedings

*A wide variety of sponsoring groups from Australia to Italy circled the globe during 1978 with a visible wave of support commemorating the tenth anniversary of the encyclical letter Humanae Vitae. Here in the United States thousands of physicians, scientists, lay persons and religious participated in sessions running from a few hours to a full week in which the teachings of the encyclical letter were reviewed and frequently cheered upon being re-read ten years after initial publication.*

*Early in May, the Pro-Life Committee of the U.S. Catholic Conference and the Human Life and Natural Family Planning Foundation co-sponsored a scientific review of progress over the past decade at an international meeting in New York. Terence Cardinal Cooke, Archbishop of New York and Chairman of the Pro-Life Committee; Edward B. Hanify of Boston, Chairman of the Foundation Board; and William A. Lynch, M.D., of Boston, President of the National Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds, were among the presenters. Its location in New York, and attendance by representatives of the medical and scientific press, gave this meeting a special spotlight for its key papers. Some have been selected for presentation here by editors of Linacre Quarterly.*

*Readers interested in this subject area will want to seek out other papers presented this year on the encyclical letter and natural family planning at the Human Life Center, Collegeville, Minn.; University of San Francisco; Archdiocese of St. Louis; Diocese of Erie; Diocese of Minneapolis-St. Paul and other observances.*

*In retrospect, it appears evident that journalists who preoccupied their columns this past summer with speculation on how the new Pope would view the Church's teaching on fertility regulation completely missed the companion story on the widespread new interest in natural family planning throughout the world.*

— Lawrence J. Kane  
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