

May 2015

## Pope Francis Meets with LCWR Representatives



Photo by L'Osservatore Romano

Joan Marie Steadman, CSC; LCWR executive director; Janet Mock, CSJ, former LCWR executive director; Carol Zinn, SSJ, LCWR past president; and Marcia Allen, CSJ, LCWR president-elect; meet with Pope Francis at the Vatican.

LCWR officials, while on their annual visit to Rome, were invited for a private audience with Pope Francis on April 16. At the conclusion of their 50-minute meeting, the LCWR officials stated, "We were honored to have this opportunity for such an extensive conversation with Pope Francis that centered on *Evangelii Gaudium*, the pope's apostolic exhortation that has so deeply impacted our lives as women religious and our mission in the world. Our conversation allowed us to personally thank Pope Francis for providing leadership and a vision that has captivated our hearts and emboldened us as in our own mission and service to the church. We were also deeply heartened by Pope Francis' expression of appreciation for the witness given by Catholic sisters through our lives and ministry and will bring that message back to our members."

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