

Remember the Fil-Am leader who last year became the first Filipino layman to accept a high-profile religious leadership in the United States as chair of the Association of Ecclesial Movements and New Communities in the Archdiocese of Washington? Adolfo Paglinawan is his name and it appears that he is now on a direct collision with the Obama administration.

Under his leadership, Couples for Christ Foundation for Family and Life and twenty other catholic movements are staging a Pro-Life Summit on July 3, 2009, at the BWI Airport Marriott towards the goal of arriving at a strategic plan for all Christians not only to sustain opposition to abortion but more so to build a victorious lay platform in favor of defending and renewing family values.

The Pro-Life Summit speakers are Justin Francis Cardinal Rigali and David Bereit.

\* **Editor's Note:** Please see an earlier article published about Mr. Paglinawan and the AEMNC of the Archdiocese of Washington in this link, [New Chair for Ecclesial Movements in Washington Archdiocese Is a Filipino](#)

Cardinal Rigali is the eighth and current Archbishop of Philadelphia after previously serving as Archbishop of St. Louis from 1994 to 2003. He was elevated to the cardinalate in 2003 and is now the chairman of the Pro-life Committee of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

David Bereit became an outspoken pro-life advocate after Planned Parenthood announced plans to build an abortion clinic in his hometown of Bryan / College Station, Texas in January of 1998. He is now executive director of the Coalition for Life and founder of "40 Days for Life".

Mr. Paglinawan said that "we are definitely encouraged by the recent Gallup Poll conducted last May 7-10, that found 51% of Americans calling themselves 'pro-life' on the issue of abortion and 42% 'pro-choice.' This is the first time a majority of U.S. adults have identified themselves as pro-life since Gallup began asking this question in 1995."

"That was a significant nine points at that! The increment to what is now the

majority has definitely come from fence sitters who have aligned with Catholic teachings ever since bishops have come out in the open in their opposition of Obama's historical and continuing support for abortion that has now become more and more evidently fundamental since the elections of 2008," he added.

It should be noted that a day after last January's March for Life, President Obama overturned the Mexico City Policy, which had prohibited U.S. funds from being used to promote or provide abortions overseas. Shortly thereafter, he started moving to overturn conscience protections for healthcare workers, which would force them to cooperate in abortion or risk losing their jobs. Then he dedicated federal funds to harvest embryonic stem cells for research at the expense of the most defenseless members of the human family.

"Many thought that because of the recent Gallup Poll, President Obama would soften up as he finds that his position has fast lost constituency support because they are irreconcilable with Catholic teachings. But as recent as his speech in Notre Dame calling for a common ground and tolerance and reconciliation amid diversity between pro-life and pro-choice, he even attempted to pull a fast one to divide Catholics as he painted himself as the new primate of American Catholicism," Paglinawan said.

Parishes in the Archdioceses of Washington and Baltimore and the  
Dioceses of Arlington,  
Richmond  
and  
Wilmington  
in the states of  
Maryland  
,  
Virginia  
and  
Delaware  
are expected to send representatives to the  
Summit

The venue's exact address is 1743 West Nursery Road, MD 21090 and  
online pre-registration is available on

<http://www.cfcfl.com/prolifsummit09/>

. Interested parties can also sign in at the door starting  
11:00 a.m.

Inquiries may be sent to

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or addressed to Margi Paglinawan by phone 571-332-0362.

Admission is free.

The Association of Ecclesial Movements and New Communities (AEMNC) in the Archdiocese of Washington is composed of the Worldwide Marriage Encounter, Team of Our Lady, *Schoenstatt* Movement, *Regnum Christi*, Prayer and Life

Workshops, Neocatechumenal Way, Mother of God Community, Madonna House Apostolate, Legion of Mary,

*L'Arche*

Community, Handicap Encounter Christ, Focolare Movement, Families of Nazareth Movement, Faith and Light, The Cursillo, Community of Sant'Egidio, Couples for Christ/Foundation for Family and Life, Communion and Liberation, Catholic Worker Movement, Catholic Charismatic Movement and

*Bukas Loob sa Diyos*

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