

ARCHBISHOP CHAPUT WILL NOT BE SILENCED



Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments on an article that appears today as a post on the *Philadelphia* magazine blog site by Joel Mathis:

Joel Mathis isn't Catholic, but that doesn't stop him from giving some heady advice to Philadelphia Archbishop Charles Chaput: just tend to the problems in the archdiocese and drop your criticisms of the Obama administration. Mathis is angry that Chaput has a new e-book coming out tomorrow, *A Heart on Fire: Catholic Witness and the Next America*, that addresses recent attacks on religious liberty. Mathis counsels Chaput to "concentrate on fixing the Catholic Church in Philadelphia," adding that the archbishop's alleged "anti-Obama crusade" amounts to "a distraction."

Catholics like to lecture the outspoken archbishop as well. Last September, no sooner had Archbishop Chaput taken over in Philly when Catholic attorney Nicholas Cafardi offered his instructions. Noting that Chaput likes to comment on the big issues of the day, he said, "Chaput would be well-advised to leave politics aside."

But Archbishop Chaput will have none of it: he will not be silenced. Indeed, he is delightfully insubordinate—nothing will stop him from opining on anything he wants, and nothing will stop him from faithfully serving his archdiocese. That's precisely why the Catholic League loves him—he's a man of steely determination and incredible fortitude.