

[Education for Action:  
The Urgency of Interreligious Leadership for the Global Good](#)

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April 4, 2019, Rome, Italy

The John Paul II Center for Interreligious Dialogue is pleased to present “Education for Action: The Urgency of Interreligious Leadership for the Global Good,” an international conference celebrating the 10th Anniversary of The John Paul II Center for Interreligious Dialogue and The Russell Berrie Fellowship in Interreligious Studies. The program, to be held at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome (The “Angelicum”), will take place on May 7, 2019.

International speakers include Rabbi Jack Bemporad and Adam Afterman, Co-Directors, The John Paul II Center for Interreligious Dialogue; Angelica Berrie, President, Russell Berrie Foundation; Fr. Michal Paluch, O.P., Rector, Angelicum; Huda Abuarquob, Regional Director, Alliance for Middle East Peace; Aart Bos, CEO, MasterPeace; Joyce Dubensky, CEO, Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding; and Sr. Lucy Thorson, NDS, Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Sion.

In celebration of the 10th year of this most remarkable higher education program in interreligious studies the event will focus on the power of interfaith leadership in bringing about positive change in the world. It will highlight ways that secular and religious communities can address both local and global problems - together.

The program will include a “Marketplace of Ideas” fair with representatives from 16 major international interfaith organizations as well as an alumni showcase of grassroots projects promoting interfaith cooperation, further providing an opportunity to move from study to practice and education to action.

The event is free and open to the public. For media and press: <https://www.educationforaction.info/>

**Tuesday, May 7, 2019**

12:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Pontifical University  
of St. Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum)  
Largo Angelicum 1, Rome, Italy

## **About the John Paul II Center for Interreligious Dialogue**

The John Paul II Center for Interreligious Dialogue, a partnership between The Russell Berrie Foundation and the Pontifical University of St Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum) and administered by the Institute of International Education (IIE), builds bridges between Christian, Jewish and other religious traditions by providing the next generation of religious leaders with a comprehensive understanding of and dedication to interfaith issues and action.

The Center, located at the Angelicum in Rome, Italy, sponsors unique programs and initiatives to achieve this goal, including: fellowships for students to pursue interreligious studies, a diploma program in interreligious studies, a study tour to Israel, top-level visiting faculty teaching interreligious dialogue courses and public lectures and conferences on interreligious understanding.

## **About the Russell Berrie Fellowship in Interreligious Studies**

Since 2008 the Russell Berrie Fellowship in Interreligious Studies has supported 95 Fellows from over 33 countries to study at the Angelicum to obtain a Licence Degree or a Diploma in Interreligious Studies. In addition to attending courses on religious and interreligious topics, fellows participate in a series of specialized lectures and enrichment programmes and attend a study seminar in Israel. The seminar components include academic scholarship, experiences at sacred sites and meetings with leaders from other faiths. Distinguished Visiting Professorships are provided to world-class theologians, philosophers, and other scholars to bring experts in fields of study important to interreligious dialogue to the Angelicum, with the purpose of offering short, intensive courses to the Russell Berrie Fellows and other students. Distinguished Visiting Professors have included Moshe Idel and Israel Knohl (Hebrew University), Menachem Lorberbaum (Tel Aviv University), Mona Siddiqui (University of Edinburgh), Professor Marshall Breger (Catholic University of America), and Rabbi Professor Jack Bemporad (Center for Interreligious Understanding).

The Russell Berrie Fellowship in Interreligious Studies is available for priests, seminarians, religious, and lay students. The Fellowship covers the cost of tuition, fees, a modest living stipend and book allowance for one year, as well as travel to and from the recipient's home country once a year. The Fellowship application period for the 2019-20 Academic year is open until April 19, 2019. For more information on applying please visit [www.iie.eu/berrie](http://www.iie.eu/berrie)