

An Estimated 3,000 People to Attend Tuesday Event Marking Anniversary of Election of Pope Francis

A capacity crowd of nearly 3,000 people are expected to attend *The Francis Factor*, an event to mark the one-year anniversary of the election of Pope Francis as Supreme Pontiff of the Roman Catholic Church, on Tuesday, March 18 at 7 p.m. at Loyola University Maryland's Reitz Arena. The Archdiocese of Baltimore is hosting the event as part of its 225th anniversary celebration.

Cardinal Seán O'Malley, OFM Cap., Archbishop of Boston and member of Pope Francis' advisory Council of Cardinals, will share his thoughts and observations on Pope Francis and his amazing first year as leader of the Catholic Church. Joining Cardinal O'Malley will be Father Thomas Rosica, CSB, CEO of Salt & Light Television and Vatican Spokesperson, Helen Alvaré, Professor of Law at George Mason School of Law and Catholic author, Fr. Matt Malone, S.J., Editor-in-Chief of *America*, and Kerry Robinson, Executive Director of the National Leadership Roundtable on Church Management, who will share their experiences and observations on the first year of Pope Francis' papacy.

All four will participate in a Q&A discussion with participation from the audience. The event is part of the Archdiocese of Baltimore's year-long celebration of the 225th anniversary of the founding of the Diocese of Baltimore. The Archdiocese will stream the event live through its website, www.archbalt.org, for those unable to attend. Anyone may offer questions or comments during the event by submitting them through social media using #FrancisFactor.