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## THE SPIRITUAL LIFE INSTITUTE

Virginia D. Birdsall  
Embrace Foundation  
16 West 22nd Street  
New York, New York 10010

September 17, 1985

Dear Virginia,

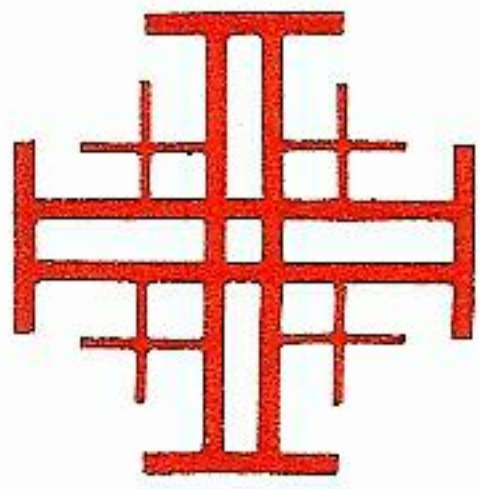
I am looking forward to participating in the Press Conference at the U.N. And thank you for inviting me to be an Honorary Member of the Advisory and Lecture Board for Embrace. I happily accept the invitation.

My work in inter-religious dialogue for the past five years has deepened my own perspectives and broadened my appreciation of the great religious traditions of the world. All this has had a salubrious effect on my community, too. We are committed to an ongoing conversation with other traditions; conversation, not confrontation, cross-fertilization, not cross-purposes, is the key to a graced future.

Sincerely,

Mother Tessa Bielecki





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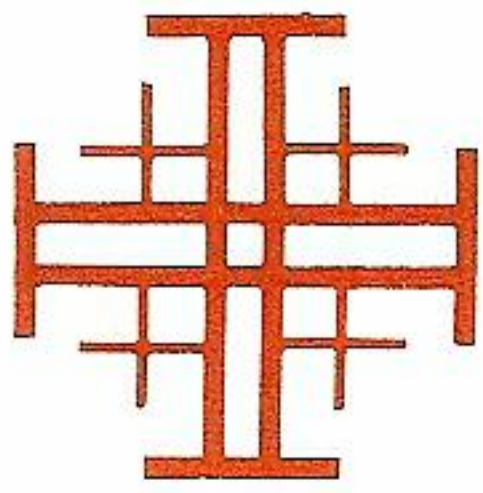
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## THE SPIRITUAL LIFE INSTITUTE

Mother Tessa asked me to send  
you these duplicates from our library  
to your new library. We will  
also be sending a set of books by  
Fr. William Mc Namara.

Cecilia McBowen





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## THE SPIRITUAL LIFE INSTITUTE

November 23

Dear Virginia —

I'm late, but nevertheless wanted to tell you what an honor it was to participate in the U. N. press conference & what a pleasure it was to meet you! I hope our paths cross again. Please keep me in mind for video work & other Embrose events in the future.

I'm glad you made contact with Florence Strong. I sent her the info. on you (did I tell you that?) & hoped you would meet. I'm happy that she offered you lunch & happier still that you are "not prepared to wear Embrose out



to Colo. hill-tour. " Flat would  
be a terrible mistake for such  
an active organization as yours.  
(If I may speak this openly with  
you please ... ) You need to be  
there in an international city where  
so many people naturally gather.

Cestave is very VERY remote  
& good, it seems, only for monas-  
teries & hermitages where people are  
looking specifically for silence &  
solitude. Even holding seminars  
here is difficult. The very popu-  
lar & highly successful Aspen  
Institute built a whole complex  
here but hasn't been able to get  
people to come for seminars for  
2 years, so they're considering selling.



You could easily use their facilities for your seminars & wouldn't have to go to the expense of building your own. We'd be glad to help out, too. There needs to be more cooperation among our efforts!

I hope I'm not being too forward! I'd be happy to talk to you about this at greater length when we meet again - if we meet again. (I hope so!)

Don't forget to send me the photo & the addresses of all of us who participated in the press conference. I'd also appreciate a copy of the statement Ayata read from Bro. David Steidle-Rast. Is that possible? Do you know that the charming older lady who was my guest was Bro. David's mother?!

Cordially, Mother Jessa

