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The Pope John Center presented its third Workshop in Washington from February 5-9, 1983. This gathering was significant for several reasons. Through a generous grant from the Knight of Columbus, several hundred bishops from the Canada, the United States of America, Mexico, the Caribbean and the Philippines gathered for a week of study, reflection and prayer.

The Pope John Center began these workshops in 1980. Workshops have occurred every year since, with the exceptions of 1987 and 1988. Each workshop concentrated on a specific topic or cluster of topics in the field of medical ethics. The lectures and plenary discussions of the workshops are published as proceedings in book