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Ohio bishops announce lifting of Mass dispensation on Sundays, Holy Days

As we move beyond the worst of the coronavirus pandemic and access to the COVID-19 vaccine has become more widespread, the time has arrived for the good of all the faithful when the general dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation is no longer necessary.

Together, the Bishops of Ohio have decided that the general obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation (including the Saturday/Vigil Mass) is to be reinstated (CIC, can. 1247). This will take effect in each of the Dioceses of Ohio the weekend of June 5-6, 2021. As has always been the case, those who have a serious reason are exempt from attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2181). This includes those who are ill, have significant health risk factors or care for someone who is immuno-compromised or ill, as well as those who have significant fear or anxiety of contracting the coronavirus in a large group of persons. Nevertheless, these persons should observe the Lord’s Day (CIC, can. 1247) and are encouraged to spend time in prayer on Sunday, meditating on the Lord’s passion, death and resurrection; an appropriate way to do this is through viewing a broadcast of the Sunday Mass.

Masses that are broadcast through various media are not intended as a substitute nor do they fulfill the obligation for the persons who are able to gather for a Sunday celebration and other Holy Days of Obligation. Instead, they are intended for the sick, home-bound, the imprisoned, etc., who are unable to attend Mass in person. Kindly consult your pastor with any specific questions regarding the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.

The book of Exodus reminds us to keep holy the Sabbath day (Exodus 20:8-10). As Catholics, we are invited by God to gather together in community, and participate fully in the Sunday Eucharist, which is the “source and summit of the Christian life.”

“Participation in the communal celebration of the Sunday Eucharist is a testimony of belonging and of being faithful to Christ and to his Church. The faithful give witness by this to their communion in faith and charity. Together they testify to God’s holiness and their hope of salvation. They strengthen one another under the guidance of the Holy Spirit” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2182).

The obligation to attend Mass on Sunday and Holy Days is not something God asks of us out of his own necessity to be worshipped, but rather a gift to the faithful for their spiritual well-being, eternal salvation and formation in our relationship with God and one another. To that end, Saint John Vianney rightly asserts, “There is nothing so great as the Eucharist. If God had something more precious, He would have given it to us.” The Eucharist is the greatest gift Christ left to the Church—the gift of Himself. There is no substitute for Mass celebrated in person.

We are profoundly grateful to our pastors and all of the faithful for their flexibility, fidelity and great generosity in support of the mission of the Church throughout this unprecedented time. As we prepare for the reinstatement of the obligation to attend Mass, we are excited once again to gather together in person without restrictions in our parish churches, most fittingly on the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. As we reflect on our Lord’s goodness and mercy in the midst of the sacrifices made during the coronavirus pandemic, we ask Saint Joseph to intercede for us, that through his fatherly protection and care, we may experience a renewal of faith in the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

We welcome you back with great joy and eagerness!

Deacons Stephen Ondrey and Jacob Stinnett will be ordained as priests of the Diocese of Columbus by Bishop Robert Brennan in a ceremony beginning at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 29 in Westerville St. Paul Church, 313 N. State St.

Deacon Eugene Joseph is currently out of the country in the United Kingdom. Due to COVID-related travel issues, he will be ordained at a later date.

Deacon Ondrey, 43, was born in Pittsburgh and moved with his family to Columbus after his father retired from the U.S. Navy. He has been studying for the priesthood since 2017 at Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary in Weston, Massachusetts, which specializes in forming men age 30 and older for the priesthood.

He was ordained a deacon on April 15, 2020 at the seminary by Auxiliary Bishop Robert Hennessey of Boston. The ordination occurred a few weeks earlier than planned because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

He and a twin brother, James, are the youngest of four sons and two daughters of James and Veronica Ondrey. He is a 1995 graduate of Hilliard High School, received a Bachelor of Science degree from Otterbein University in 1999, was a genetics researcher at Ohio State University for three years, and then decided to become a dentist.

He graduated from Ohio State’s college of dentistry in 2007, did a one-year residency at Miami Valley Hospital in Dayton and followed that with working at several dental offices in Ohio before discerning that he was being called to the priesthood. He has spent summer breaks at Columbus St. Timothy and Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas churches.

Deacon Stinnett is the son of Mark and Nancy Stinnett of Columbus. After graduating from St. Charles Preparatory School in 2013, he has spent the past eight years at the Josephinum.

He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy from the institution in 2017 and a Master of Divinity degree earlier this month. Bishop Brennan ordained him as a deacon on June 12 at the Josephinum.

During summer breaks, he served at Catholic Youth Summer Camp and Newark St. Francis de Sales, Hilliard St. Brendan the Navigator, Chillicothe St. Peter, Washington Court House St. Colman of Cloyne and Waverly St. Mary churches. For the past year, he has worked with parishioners at Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church.

See ORDINATION, Page 7
With priestly vocations declining, what must the laity do?

By Carol Smith

The diocese recently began the early phase of the Real Presence, Real Future strategic planning initiative with the Disciple Maker Index survey. As I completed the 75-question survey, one question resonated with me: “Have you ever invited someone to consider a vocation to the priesthood?”

As a member of the laity, I wondered how integral they are in inviting others to consider the priesthood? One might assume that there will always be enough priests.

I recall a conversation several years ago with a co-worker and friend. She shared that during her grandmother’s era, it was a common expectation that the first-born son of a family should enter the priesthood. If not the first-born, then someone else from the household was expected to have the calling to religious life.

This question also made me reflect on my brother, Father Kenneth “KT” Taylor, and the times he would speak of his own calling to the priesthood. He would mention his was not so much due to a particular moment as it was to a particular movement – the civil rights movement of the 1960s. He wanted a voice in the societal change of the times, and he saw the Catholic Church as being involved in this change.

It was three years ago this month when he celebrated his priesthood’s 40th year jubilee. Later that same year, his parishioners from that span of 40 years came back to celebrate him again, this time because God had called him home.

Archbishop Charles Thompson of Indianapolis, where my brother ministered, released a statement to the local media that read, “He had been a wonderful and faithful priest.” His call to the priesthood was true. I believe we must acknowledge that every priest will have his own personal story of entering his path, and we offer our prayers for each priest’s journey. Notably, the priestly vocation has declined in the past couple of decades. More priests are reaching the age of retirement at a rate that is faster than those who are being ordained. It is more common to see a priest taking on multiple parishes with increased responsibilities. Many priests today do not have the benefit, as in years past, of first being an associate pastor for an extended period of time.

Bishop Robert Breman addressed this when he met with our priests at their convocation more than a year ago to discuss and assess their needs, including vocational decline. That convocation was the beginning of the Real Presence, Real Future planning initiative that is now occurring in our diocese.

The questions arise: How does this shortage impact the laity? What will the role of the laity become? I believe the people will be counted on more for leadership. The more involved the laity become, the better equipped we must be, with tools to better understand our faith.

In that same spirit, how do we as laity faithful invite someone to consider the priesthood? We do as I witnessed Father Charles Smith, who a year ago...
Be a faithful voice in the Ohio budget process

Every two years, the state of Ohio approves an operating budget for most state government agencies, the legislature and the judiciary. The process starts with a proposed budget from the governor with a detailed listing of priorities and dollar amounts.

Next, the Ohio House of Representatives introduces a budget bill and holds committee hearings to go over the details. Once the House passes the amended budget, it goes to the Senate for consideration in a similar fashion. After both houses concur and pass the budget bill, it is signed into law by the governor.

This may sound like a social studies review, but there is something very important at the heart of this process. The budget is a moral document. It represents what we as a community value and prioritize among competing interests. The budget is more than just dollars and cents. It’s about families and neighbors and where they go to school, receive health care or get the help they need.

As faithful citizens, each of us can lend our voice to help shape the state budget. Like the prophets of the Old Testament, we, too, can go to the leaders in our community and articulate the Church’s care and concern for the common good, especially for the poor and vulnerable.

The practice of custody relinquishment of children with complex behavioral health needs for the sole purpose of accessing services is heartbreaking for caring families. Maintaining the Multi-System Youth Relinquishment Fund will keep families together. This year the fund is accompanied by the new OhioRISE program, a transformational approach to prevent child custody relinquishment of multi-system youth by providing intensive wrap-around services and preventative supports.

FAITH IN ACTION

Jerry Freewalt

Jerry Freewalt is director of the diocesan Office for Social Concerns.

Church in public policy matters, serves as a voice, an advocate, at the Statehouse. The following is a sampling of the conference’s priorities and recommendations for HB 110, the budget bill.

An increase in funding of the Housing Trust Fund for example responds to the need for affordable housing. Recovery Housing funding helps Ohioans with substance use disorders. As families struggle with poverty and food insecurity, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, strengthening programs such as SNAP, Ohio Works First and the Earned Income Tax Credit make ends meet.

A most unfortunate Roman intervention

On May 7, Cardinal Luis Ladaria, SJ, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, sent a letter to Archbishop José Gomez, president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. To all appearances, that letter was aimed at forestalling indefinitely a joint statement by the U.S. bishops on eucharistic coherence in the Church, with particular reference to the reception of Holy Communion by Catholic public officials complicit in the grave moral evil of abortion: an issue eloquently addressed recently by Bishop Thomas Paprocki of Springfield, Illinois, Bishop Thomas Olmsted of Phoenix, Archbishop Samuel Aquila of Denver, and Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone of San Francisco.

Cardinal Ladaria’s letter includes statements that are not self-evidently clear, in part because they seem inconsistent with what the congregation he heads taught in its 2002 “Doctrinal Note” entitled The Participation of Catholics in Political Life.

For example, the cardinal’s letter to Archbishop Gomez urges that the bishops of the U.S. undertake a “dialogue” so that “they could agree as a Conference that support of pro-choice legislation is not compatible with Catholic teaching.” Why is such a dialogue necessary? At their ordination, bishops swear a solemn oath to uphold the teaching of the Church. And as the 2002 Doctrinal Note states, quoting John Paul II’s 1995 encyclical Evangelium Vitae (The Gospel of Life), “those who are directly involved in lawmaking have a ‘grave and clear obligation to oppose’ any law that attacks human life. For them, as for every Catholic, it is impossible to promote such laws or to vote for them.”

“discuss”? And if, God forbid, some bishops actually disagree with that teaching, why should their rejection of it—or even their muddled understanding of its implications—prevent the overwhelming majority of bishops who accept that teaching from resisting it and then applying it? The First Council of Nicaea didn’t wait for the episcopal supporters of Arius to “agree” before it taught the truth about the divinity of Christ. The Council of Ephesus didn’t wait for the agreement of Nestorius and the Nestorian bishops before teaching the truth that Mary can rightly be called Theotokos, Mother of God. Unanimity can never be at the expense of truth, can it?

Once “agreement” among the bishops on what is an elementary truth of Catholic faith has been achieved, the cardinal urges that local bishops “engage in dialogue with Catholic politicians within their jurisdictions” as a “means of understanding the nature of their positions and their comprehension of Catholic teaching.” Perhaps the cardinal is unaware that this has been done. Perhaps the cardinal is unaware that the issue, typically, is not that “pro-choice” politicians misunderstand what the Church teaches but that they reject it—and still insist on presenting themselves as serious Catholics in full communion with the Church. (Such claims are now a regular feature of White House press briefings.) There is little that is unclear here, and further “dialogue” is not going to clarify much of anything.

The cardinal was also concerned that any “national policy on worthiness for communion” must express a “true consensus of the bishops on the matter.” But that is to say, once again, that the bishops with the least sense of urgency about defending the truth, applying it, and thereby recovering the eucharistic coherence of the Church call the tune for the rest of the bishops. This is not the kind of “consensus” that Pope Paul VI sought when he worked to have Vatican II adopt its Declaration on Religious Freedom by the largest margin possible. Pope Paul knew that Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre and other intransigents would never accept such a declaration, but he was not prepared to grant them veto power over it in the name of “consensus.” Why should such veto power be granted to the few intransigents in the U.S. bishops’ conference today?

The prefect’s call that “every effort … be made” to “dialogue” with “other episcopal conferences as this policy is formulated” is also puzzling. Does Cardinal Ladaria really believe that a “dialogue” with a German episcopal conference unconcerned about apostasy and careening into schism is going to produce fruitful results in the United States? If so, it would be instructive to know how that’s going to happen.

The strategy Cardinal Ladaria urges in his letter replicates key elements in the McCarrick approach to pro-abortion American politicians. I trust Cardinal Ladaria was unaware of that, but in any event the sluggish, tepid approach to a crisis that he urges on the U.S. bishops is badly misconceived.
Dr. Alan Keyes will be the featured speaker at the Greater Columbus Right to Life (GCRTL) annual fundraising banquet on Monday, June 14 at Villa Milano, 1630 Schrock Road, Columbus.

There is no cost to attend the banquet, with registration options including in-person, livestream from home, and remotely hosted events. There will be an invitation to support the work of the organization during the program.

Dr. Keyes has dedicated his life to defending, promoting and fighting for liberty. He is particularly known for bringing the evil of abortion, which he considers our nation’s “greatest moral challenge,” into the national spotlight.

Dr. Keyes was the highest-ranking Black appointee in the Reagan administration, serving as Assistant Secretary of State for International Organizations and as Ambassador to the UN Economic and Security Council. He ran for President of the United States and was the Republican nominee for the U.S. Senate in Maryland in 1988 and 1992. He is probably best known, however, for running against Barack Obama for the Illinois U.S. Senate seat in 2004 when Obama refused to support a bill requiring that babies who were born alive after an attempt ed abortion be provided medical care. Although he did not win that race, his influence on the issue continues to impact the pro-life fight.

“We are excited to bring Dr. Keyes to Columbus. He is one of the most passionate speakers that I have ever heard on both the topics of ending abortion and returning the United States to the divinely-promised principles of the Declaration of Independence,” GCRTL Executive Director Beth Vanderkooi said.

She added, “While we are excited to return to an in-person event, this year, we will have a stream-from-home option as well as an opportunity to host remote-watch parties.”

Stream-from-home will allow those individuals who for health or distance reasons are unable to come to the event to join us, and several churches and groups are hosting “remote watch” parties – allowing respect life small groups who may not be able to drive to Columbus to join together to “host” their own mini-events.

Doors at Villa Milano will open at 5:45 p.m. Monday, June 14. The meal will begin at 6:30 followed by the program at 7. Advance registration is required at g rtl.org/banquet or by calling 614-445-8508.

Vanderkooi noted that the event venue is following pandemic guidelines, and in-person seating may be limited.

“Beauty of Christ – both God and man – draws us to Him

“For you have made us for yourself, and our heart is restless until it rests in you.” – St. Augustine, Confessions

We move from one thing to another in life. Some movements are more significant than others. For those who know and believe in God, we desire always to be moving to God, and this is true, good and beautiful.

The true, the good and the beautiful. “All creatures bear a certain resemblance to God, most especially man, created in the image and likeness of God. The manifold perfections of creatures – their truth, their goodness, their beauty – all reflect the infinite perfection of God …” (Catechism of the Catholic Church 41)

“For the majority of the Church Fathers, the image of God, and therefore the mirror of the Trinity’s beauty, is to be found chiefly in man’s rational spiritual soul, by which he is capable of knowing and loving the God of Wisdom and Love who made him.” (The Beauty of Holiness and The Holiness of Beauty, Saward)

Participation of the finite in the infinite is perhaps a bit “mysterious.” Much of what we believe through reason will take us only so far, and this shouldn’t surprise anyone. The Catechism uses the word “mystery” more than 400 times! St. Augustine says, “If you understood Him, it would not be God.” St. Cardinal John Henry Newman wrote, “Ten thousand difficulties do not make one doubt.” After all, the things we propose as true in the Catholic faith stretch the human mind and heart.

You might think it natural to start talking about the true, and then the good before proceeding on to the beautiful. I think the key to energizing the Christian life is to recapture and realize the beautiful. Bishop Robert Barron was asked how to talk to someone about God, and he responded: Start with the beautiful. When starting with the true and good, relativism inevitably creeps in, and conversations will likely get bogged down.

What is beauty? St. Thomas Aquinas offers three requirements for beauty: radiance; harmony, which he also calls due proportion; and wholeness. Of these three, the chief is radiance. Beauty, for Thom as, lies in things themselves, in their being, in their essence and, indeed, existence.

Christ is beautiful, and He comes to restore us to beauty. According to St. Thomas, there is a fourfold beauty in Christ. First, in His divine nature He has beauty, for He is God the Son, the Splendor of the Father. Second, in His human nature He has the beauty of grace and the virtues, for He is “full of grace and truth.”

Third, in Christ we see the beauty of moral conduct; the human actions of the Son of God are more upright and, therefore, more beautiful than any other man’s. Finally, Christ as man, even before His Resurrection, had beauty of body, a beauty befitting the man who was God, in whose face the spiritual beauty of the Godhead shone.

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(614) 985-2325 email: give@pcj.edu

Stop here for a moment. The Holy Bible gives us a snapshot of Jesus “dwelling among us.” Catechism 470 reminds us, “The Son of God … worked with human hands; he thought with a human mind. He acted with a human will, and with a human heart he loved. Born of the Virgin Mary, he has truly been made one of us, like to us in all things except sin.”

We read in the Holy Bible about Jesus weeping and being fatigued. Do you think Joseph and Mary had to fend off a lot of prospects for the hand of Jesus? Do you think He had a good laugh if one of His buddies went head over heels off a boat and into the water? Do you think He enjoyed wine? God and man … this is true, good and beautiful.

For St. Thomas, a thing is not beautiful because it is loved; it is loved because it is beautiful. Beauty is not “in the eye of the beholder.” It radiates out.
I’ve always been struck by the beauty of movement, whether it’s a ballerina gracefully moving across the stage, a baseball hitter’s powerful swing, a skier masterfully navigating the mountain, or an athlete in the gym maneuvering heavy weights with ease.

Beauty is all around us in many forms and I try to take the time to appreciate how the many hours of repetitive practice allow the human person, at every level of athletics, to move with beauty, grace and ease. Thanks be to God for the incredible design of the human body and all that it allows us to do.

The ability to appreciate beauty, in any form, is truly a gift from God. I was reminded of this recently as I listened to a Catholic podcast and the topic was goodness, beauty and truth. This time of year especially, when the trees are budding, the flowers are blooming, and all of nature becomes a flourish of green, it is easy be thankful for the goodness, beauty and truth of God displayed in the majesty of His creation.

The door to the front of my house frequently and spontaneously opens. We live in the country, and there are few trees near that part of my home to shelter us from strong gusts of wind. In typical Eberhard fashion, we use this to teach our family about the Holy Spirit.

Someone will inevitably yell, “Come, Holy Spirit!” as the door bursts open. Paper will blow off tables, the dogs will gratefully accept the invitation to go outdoors and our home will literally feel a gust of wind blow through it.

In reality, that becomes an all-hands-on-deck moment where someone is running to close the door, someone else is picking up the pencils, papers and other paraphernalia that has blown off of shelves or tables, animals are welcomed back into the house and leaves or mulch are swept up.

I like to rebaptize things in my mind (a gift learned from Father David Schalk, a dear friend of mine). From secular songs to commercials and the everyday family moment, Jesus is truly present in it all, we just need to have eyes to see. We need to be aware.

We have, after all, an expectant faith. Take for instance the moment I just described. My kids have grown up with me pointing out that each paper picked up can represent something the Father wants to give to you. Each gust of wind is Him reminding you of His promises to you, His love, His presence. A grateful heart that is trained to look for the Lord sees these moments with different eyes.

I realize it’s easy to put such moments on pedestals as we visualize them — prayerful children obediently picking up the papers, thanking Jesus for all He has given. But let’s put the next layer of reality on it. The door blows open, someone yells, “Come Holy Spirit!” Papers blow, animals run out barking and no one gets up. Sometimes that is reality, too.

What’s a momma to do? Again in this house, it might look like me saying the prayer to the Holy Spirit out loud, perhaps even singing or shouting it: “Come, Holy Spirit, Fill the hearts of thy faithful. Enkindle in them a fire for thy love …”

The basis for catechesis is exposure. Exposure comes from being in the environment where holiness happens. The truth is, my kids won’t always choose to place themselves in holy environments, but I can attempt to create that for them.

Family life lived out in the everyday attempt toward holiness plants seeds that time and repetition help bloom. My kids may rebel, roll their eyes, sigh or even walk away for a time from their faith. I know that their lives have been rooted in foundational memories created time and time again.

Our family has traditions that I trust are sealed in their core by the Holy Spirit. Stations of the Cross around the family table, nighttime family rosaries, hymns sung from the top of the steps as they fall asleep and a home filled with a spirit of welcoming in all are just a few faith traditions we have held.

The everyday moments of late-night talks, reading books together, nature walks, schooling together, long car drives and lots and lots of laughter lead children who see virtue pursued in the everyday. Our children need us to not only be guardrails as they grow into maturity but also to create a lifestyle where they can fully recognize Christ’s presence in every moment.

All that is beautiful

HOLY AND HEALTHY
Lori Crock
Lori Crock is a parishioner at Plain City St. Joseph Church. Lori leads SoulCore Rosary prayer and exercise at parishes, teaches physical strength classes and writes about faith and fitness at holyandhealthycatholic.com

Beauty resides not only in our vistas and valleys, but also in literature, art, music, theatre, gardening, cooking, woodworking, athletics, and most especially in how we love and serve. Beauty resides in really any activity that we unite with God and that lifts our eyes and hearts to Him in thanksgiving. God generously pours his grace into us as we live, laugh, love, pray, play, move, share and create — each of us in our own way — and so we all contribute in some way to the beautiful tapestry of God’s creation.

What a powerful prayer to ask God to guide us in our creative, artistic and physical endeavors and that we do everything with pure hearts rooted in His love. Let us nurture and share our gifts and talents freely so that the goodness, beauty and truth of God flow out from us to others.

The pinnacle of beauty is love in the human soul. St. Pope John Paul II referred to the human person as the “masterpiece of God’s creation.” May we give thanks for the inner beauty of every soul, which is like a shimmering jewel illuminating the light of Christ, each in our own way.

St. Augustine said, “How does that beauty bring us closer to Him? Since love grows within you, so beauty grows. For love is the beauty of the soul.”

Help us Lord to appreciate the goodness, beauty and truth of both the joys and the sufferings that we will inevitably experience in this life — and by your grace, may we unite all of it with the love of your Son Jesus Christ, who by the Cross, gives us new life.

Everyday events can become holy happenings for kids

ALL THAT WE HAVE
MaryBeth Eberhard
MaryBeth Eberhard writes about marriage, life experiences of a large family and special needs. She attends Sanbury St. John Neumann Church.

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Laity, continued from Page 3

was our keynote speaker for our Dr. Martin Luther King Jr celebration, does. You simply ask.

When Father Charles shared a table with my teenage cousin at our parish reception, he simply asked him, “Have you thought of becoming a priest?” Father Charles was fully engaged with the questions a teenager would pose when being asked such a question.

I recall a quote from Father Ted Sill, pastor of Gahanna St. Matthew the Apostle Church: “If someone is discerning a life of the priesthood, have them talk to a priest right away, then have them think about it, pray about it, then talk openly about it. All that is essential to the process. It takes time, so be patient.” A seed needs to be planted before it will grow.

As I finish these thoughts about our priests and how my brother KT inspired me, I want to share something wonderful that illustrates the spirit of Real Presence, Real Future. Four seminarians (Kevin, Daniel, Trevor and Joey) made a surprise visit to Columbus Holy Rosary/St. John Church on Divine Mercy Sunday. They assisted Father Ramon Owera as he celebrated Mass. Witnessing them brought a uniqueness to that Sunday.

At the end of Mass, Daniel shared his moving story of conversion, which ultimately also became his call to the priesthood. After Mass, in conversation with the seminarians, I learned Bishop Brennan is sending them to the priesthood. One of our parishioners even met with the seminarians to the priesthood. One of our parishioners even met with the seminarians to the priesthood. One of our parishioners even met with the seminarians to the priesthood. One of our parishioners even met with the seminarians to the priesthood. One of our parishioners even met with the seminarians to the priesthood. One of our parishioners even met with the seminarians to the priesthood. One of our parishioners even met with the seminarians to the priesthood. One of our parishioners even met with the seminarians to the priesthood. One of our parishioners even met with the seminarians to the priesthood. One of our parishioners even met with the seminarians to the priesthood. One of our parishioners even met with the seminarians to the priesthood. One of our parishioners even met with the seminarians to the priesthood. One of our parishioners even met with the seminarians to the priesthood. One of our parishioners even met with the seminarians to the priesthood. One of our parishioners even met with the seminarians to the priesthood. One of our parishioners even met with the seminarians to the priesthood. One of our parishioners even met with the seminarians to the priesthood. One of our parishioners even met with the seminarians
Priest with brain disease returning to Pickerington

A priest of the Diocese of Charlotte, North Carolina, who has been diagnosed with a degenerative brain disease and who has family members in Pickerington, is returning there for care.

Father Michael Kottar, 53, had been pastor of St. Mary Help of Christians Church in Shelby, North Carolina and Christ the King Mission in Kings Mountain, North Carolina since 2007 when he learned last month that he has Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease, a rare and aggressive brain condition for which there is no effective treatment or cure. The disease is caused by a protein abnormality that destroys the brain’s nerve cells.

Father Kottar told the Catholic News Herald, the newspaper of the Charlotte diocese, that he first suspected a serious health problem in December, when he began feeling dizzy and at times had to cancel Mass. His diagnosis was the result of testing.

“It was hard to hear. I thought I’d have a few more years. But if God wants me now, then that’s what will be,” he told the newspaper just before a gathering in which he said farewell to the diocese’s seminarians.

“It’s wonderful to see such a growing Diocese of Charlotte,” he told the seminarians. “In case I die, I have a few words for the future: It’s a good future.”

“Father Kottar, who has two young twin sisters, grew up in the Youngstown suburb of Austintown and graduated from Youngstown Ursuline High School. He began his training for the priesthood at the Pontifical College Josephinum, then earned an philosophy degree from St. Alphonsus Redemptorist Seminary in Connecticut and received a Master of Divinity degree from Mount St. Mary’s Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland in 1994.

He was ordained a priest in that year for the Diocese of Metuchen, New Jersey, where he served for five years before joining the Charlotte diocese in 1999.

The newspaper described him as a fitness buff who enjoys hiking and cruising the Caribbean. “He is also known for his slapstick, British-style sense of humor and for his way with words. He delivers moving homilies, which made pilgrimages he led particularly meaningful,” the newspaper said.

“He loves the mix of people and cultures (at his parish) … and is widely appreciated for his counseling, Great Adventure Bible study, for overseeing an expansion of the narthex – and getting the parking lot paved.”

To reach Father Kottar and his family, email smmaryshelfy@charlottedioce.se.org or send mail to Violet Springs Health Campus, Attention: Father Michael Kottar, 603 Diley Road, Pickerington OH 43147.

Friar from Westerville to be ordained in New York

Brother Joseph Michael, CFR, a Westerville native and former parishioner at New Albany Church of the Resurrection, will be ordained to the priesthood for the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal at 9 a.m. Saturday, May 29 at St. Patrick Cathedral in New York City.

Cardinal Timothy Dolan, the archbishop of New York, will ordain four Franciscan Friars of the Renewal and six candidates from the archdiocese to the priesthood.

Brother Joseph Michael, 36, graduated from Westerville North High School in 2003 and then studied literature at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. He returned to central Ohio after college and worked for a year as a youth minister at Columbus St. Cecilia and Our Lady of Victory churches before entering the Franciscan Friars

ORDINATION, continued from Page 2

He will celebrate a Mass of thanksgiving at 3 p.m. May 30 in Columbus Immaculate Conception Church, 414 E. North Broadway. RSVP by Thursday, May 20 to (614) 267-9241 or icoffice@iccols.org.

Deacon Joseph, 28, was born in the Indian province of Kerala and moved with his family to England when he was 9 or 10 years old. He graduated from Kensington College in London, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in theology, then came to the Pontifical College Josephinum to complete his studies for the priesthood. He was ordained to the diaconate by Bishop Brennan at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on Sept. 14, 2019.

His home parish is the New Albany Church of the Resurrection. While at the Josephinum, he performed assignments at the cathedral, Bethesda Healing Ministry, Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School and St. Paul, Sunbury St. John Neumann and Columbus St. Cecilia and Immaculate Conception churches. He has been living in England for the past year.
es and families and proclaiming the Church's teaching on those subjects. “I’m a work in progress, but by His grace, I do my best to trust Him each day and to be aware of His presence in me and the people I’m interacting with,” she said.

Rapp, 36, grew up in Berkeley Heights, New Jersey with one younger sister. “My Catholic faith always was a significant part of my life,” she said. “I can’t remember a time when I didn’t talk to God or pray, even when I was a child.”

In high school, she became involved with Young Life, an interdenominational Christian ministry for young people. “God used Young Life to call me into a deeper relationship with Him,” she said. “I went to Young Life camp after my freshman year of high school and experienced a significant encounter with the Lord.”

“At the end of the week of camp, there are 20 minutes of silence, and I didn’t talk to God or pray, even when I was a child.” She said. “I can’t remember a time when I didn’t talk to God or pray, even when I was a child.”

After high school, she attended the University of South Florida, where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in psychology. “I was interested in mental health counseling and knew I wanted to help others, yet was not sure what the Lord had in store for me,” she said.

“I started working for a homeless shelter for families, first during the summer and then in a more substantial job. What was important besides the work itself was just being open to allowing Jesus’ light to shine through me into the lives of the people I encountered.”

While in college, a friend introduced her to her husband, Craig. The couple have been married for 12 years and moved to Columbus so he could attend the Ohio State University law school and receive a law degree. Stephanie attended graduate school at Ohio State and received both a Master of Social Work degree and a Master of Arts degree in public policy and management from the institution. Craig is an attorney for HSBC, a British multinational bank that is the largest bank in Europe, with branches in several central Ohio locations.

“The Lord called me to His service and gave me the courage and strength I needed to become involved with anti-trafficking work and mental health counseling,” she said. “To be able to be present and accompany others, as well as advocate for change, is a great privilege.”

She first became involved with the Marriage and Family Life Office as a volunteer for its marriage preparation program and, with her husband, taking a Natural Family Planning class instructed by Fullin. She also was an ambassador for the Fair Trade program of the diocesan Office for Social Concerns and wrote a series on the subject for The Catholic Times.

“After having volunteered with the diocese, I felt drawn to this type of ministry. So when my husband and I discerned it was time for me to find a new job, the diocese was the first place I looked,” Rapp said. “At that time, they were searching for a director for the Marriage and Family Life Office, so I applied and prayed. That was almost five years ago, and it has been a wonderful opportunity.”

Her position brings her a unique chance to combine home and work experiences so that each benefits from the other. “I’m blessed in that way,” she said. “There’s a wonderful convergence in how being a spouse and a parent helps me as marriage and family life director and vice versa.”

“It also strengthens Craig and I in our own vocation of marriage. We are striving for holiness together, hoping to set an example for our children and to be a blessing to our parish and the world around us,” Rapp said. “By no means are we perfect; no family is, other than the Holy Family. But it is within the home where hopefully we learn to love God and others.”

Rapp also is part of the commission for the diocese’s Real Presence, Real Future campaign. She describes this as “an exciting time to renew the Church, focusing on Christ’s Real Presence in the Eucharist and the role of families in the future of the Church.”

“We all need to spend time with Christ and to take Him with us to our spouses, our children, our neighbors, our friends and beyond,” she said. “He is present first and foremost in the Eucharist, and He wants to use each of us to extend His presence into every part of our lives and into the world.”
By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

The diocese’s Catholic Man of the Year for 2021 says one phrase will tell him whether he has fulfilled his mission as a husband and father.

“My wife, Ann, and I talk often about our purpose as parents, and we always come back to the phrase ‘Well done, good and faithful servant,’” Stephan Johnson said. “For me to have been successful will mean that one day, our kids will be in heaven and go in front of God, and that’s what He will say to them.”

Johnson, a member of Ada Our Lady of Lourdes Church, received the Catholic Men’s Luncheon Club’s annual award from Bishop Robert Brennan on Friday, May 7 in a Zoom presentation also featuring his parish’s pastor, Father Ed Shikina, and luncheon club president David Clark.

Johnson, 36, and his wife, a professor at Ohio Northern University in Ada, are raising four children ranging in age from infancy to 7 years. Johnson is staying home with the children, homeschooling the oldest one, and is involved with almost every facet of parish life at both Our Lady of Lourdes and Hardin County’s other Catholic church, Kenton Immaculate Conception.

“Steve has helped in so many ways,” said Father Shikina, who became pastor of both parishes last July. “He is the spiritual leader of his household, he was of great assistance to both parishes by setting up livestreaming, creating a website and doing other things when the pandemic started, and he’s also active in the community, sacrificing his time to benefit others. He’s inspired me to be a better pastor and inspired other parishioners by all he’s done.”

At Our Lady of Lourdes, Johnson also is an unofficial parish maintenance person; is co-director, with his wife, of the Parish School of Religion; established a daily virtual prayer group; and serves the church in many additional ways.

“Father Ed talked about sacrifice,” Johnson said after receiving the award. “I’ve been reading The Spirit of the Liturgy by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, who became Pope Benedict XVI, and he also talks a great deal about sacrifice. The book goes into the Mass in detail and notes that a key phrase is when the celebrant says, ‘Pray, my brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.’

“That phrase is kind of a driving force our family has used, in that Jesus offered the ultimate sacrifice on the cross, and we are called to unite ourselves in that sacrifice. Ann and I have strived to bring to our kids this idea of sacrifice, of putting others first. ‘We can view the pandemic as a hindrance or use it as an opportunity,’” he said. “It’s been such a blessing for our parish, for our diocese and for the Holy See to use this as an opportunity to reunite with Christ. Hopefully, we all can stand in front of God together one day and hear, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant.’”

Presentation of the Catholic Man of the Year award usually occurs at a men’s club luncheon in February but was delayed this year because of the pandemic.

Johnson was chosen by a selection committee from among more than 20 men nominated for the award. Clark said this was the largest number of nominees in the award’s 64-year history. The committee included representatives from Young Catholic Professionals, the Catholic Men’s Ministry, the Knights of Columbus, the Serra Club and the luncheon club.

The club established the honor in 1957, awarding it to John Igoe of Columbus St. Agatha Church, and has presented it every year since then. The 2020 recipient was Dr. Raymond Sheridan of Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church.

Local news and events

Bishop to celebrate Pentecost vigil Mass at Our Lady of Peace

Bishop Robert Brennan will be the principal celebrant for a vigil Mass at Our Lady of Peace Church, 20 E. Domin- ion Blvd. The Mass will be sponsored by Columbus Catholic Renewal and hosted by the Our Lady of Peace prayer ministry.

Because of COVID-19 restrictions, registration is required for attendance. To register, go to https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d45a9ac2ea7f-c61-pentecost.

CCL reunion golf outing planned

A golf outing that will serve as a reunion for Central Catholic League teams that won state championships in men’s sports between 1971 and 1992 will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, July 12 at the Pinnacle Golf Club in Grove City.

The event will be in a four-man scramble format at a cost of $400 per team. The fee will cover 18 holes of golf with a cart, plus a box lunch from Cimi’s Bistro.

Participating four-man teams are asked to send a check to Gary Metzger, 4652 St. Andrews Drive, Grove City OH 43123 and include the names of the team members, their school, sport and year of championship, and one contact phone number. Write “golf” on the memo line of the check. The deadline is Friday, July 2.

For those not wishing to play golf, the club’s outside patio and restaurant area will be open at 2:15 p.m. Coaches of the championship teams who are not playing golf will be available at the time. Participants are encouraged to bring memorabilia.

For more information, contact Metzger at garygbaby@aol.com or (614) 578-7896.

Josephinum to host Quo Vadis vocations retreat in July

The annual Quo Vadis vocations discernment retreat for young men entering grades 9 to 12 will take place Sunday to Wednesday, July 25 to 28 at the Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus.

The retreat will be led by priests and seminarians of the Diocese of Columbus and is supported by the diocesan Office of Vocations. The cost is $40 and scholarships are available.

The registration deadline is Friday, July 16. To register or for more information, go to http://www.seekholiness.com/quo-vadis or contact Michael Haemmerle at columbusvqvos@gmail.com.

Chillicothe St. Peter plans 175th anniversary celebration

Chillicothe St. Peter Church will celebrate its 175th anniversary this year after a one-year delay because of the COVID pandemic.

Bishop Robert Brennan will celebrate an anniversary Mass at the church, located at 118 Church St., on Tuesday, June 29, the Feast of Sts. Peter and Paul and the 176th anniversary of the laying of the church’s cornerstone.

Former pastors of the parish, including Msgr. Anthony Frecker, Father James Black and Father William Hahn, will be in attendance. Other former pastors have been invited to attend.

Also planned are an Oktoberfest, a celebration of the dedication of the church on Friday, Dec. 5, and an event on Tuesday, Feb. 2, 2022, the Feast of the Chair of St. Peter.

Catholic singles hike scheduled at Highbanks

A hike for Catholic singles will take place from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Sunday, June 6 at Highbanks Metro Park, 9466 U.S. Route 23, Lewis Center. The rain date is Sunday, June 13 at the same time.

Participants are asked to meet in front of the Big Meadows picnic shelter. Look for white balloons. If you have trouble finding parking, there is a grassy overflow parking site in the Big Meadows area.

Hikers will walk 1.6 miles in a loop along the river and park, doing a combination of the Big Meadows and Scenic River trails. The path is mostly paved, with some gravel. Masks are required. No pets will be allowed. RSVP by calling or texting Deborah-maria at (614) 965-7803.

Motorcycles to be blessed at Newark St. Francis de Sales

Motorcycle riders and passengers need the protection of God while they ride. Father Dave Sizemore will be officiating at a blessing of motorcycles and riders at 12:30 p.m. Sunday, June 6 in the rear parking lot of Newark St. Francis de Sales Church, 58 Granville St.

Those attending will receive a prayer card and a sticker of St. Columbanus, the patron of motorcyclists.
By Jerry Freewalt
Director, Office for Social Concerns

Bishop Robert Brennan made pastoral visits on Friday, May 14 to family farms near Chillicothe and Circleville on the occasion of the feast of St. Isidore the Farmer.

The bishop started his day concelebrating Mass with Fr. Timothy Hayes at Bishop Flaget School in Chillicothe. In his homily to the students, Bishop Brennan expressed his deep appreciation for the farming community and to the students for their school projects centered on agriculture and caring for God’s creation. After Mass, school principal Laura Corcoran led a tour showcasing recently hatched chickens, indoor planters with grow lights and a greenhouse.

The bishop enjoyed lunch at St. Mary Church in Chillicothe consisting of food produced by local farmers of the parish. Items included Italian beef, purple asparagus, salad, strawberries and apple cider.

During his visit to the Hirsch Fruit Farm Market, which has been selling produce since 1890, Bishop Brennan toured the farm in a truck driven by St. Mary’s parishioner Mike Hirsch. Long rows of strawberries, blackberries and fruit trees lined the route. A highlight of the tour was a demonstration of the farm’s cider mill machinery and a taste of apple cider.

The bishop then drove to Ross County and climbed aboard a large John Deere tractor driven by Dennis Corcoran, husband of Laura Corcoran, and planted rows of popcorn. At one point during the planting, Bishop Brennan became the farmer as he got behind the wheel to drive the tractor. It was a truly memorable experience for the shepherd of the diocese.

After the bishop blessed the field and the farm couple, he was introduced to their children and the family’s horse Oreo, a former actor in the Tecumseh! outdoor drama, and their 4-H steer Bernie.

His final stop was an orchard owned by Steve and Marian Garner, parishioners of St. Joseph Church in Circleville. The bishop was welcomed by several friends of the family. Among the numerous fruit trees in the orchard are 72 varieties of apples. The couple named certain varieties after saints like St. Cecilia and St. Joseph. Following the tour, the bishop blessed the people gathered and the orchard next to the first tree the couple grafted.

During all of his stops the bishop expressed his sincere gratitude to the farmers for stewarding God’s gifts of creation and working to provide for our daily needs.
Downtown procession honors
Our Lady of Fatima on feast day

A procession through downtown Columbus on Thursday, May 13, the feast day of Our Lady of Fatima, passes by St. Joseph Cathedral.

CT photos by Ken Snow

Participations enter Columbus St. Patrick Church for Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at the end of the procession honoring Our Lady of Fatima.

Led by altar servers from Columbus St. Patrick Church, approximately 200 people, including Bishop Robert Brennan, participated in the procession on the Marian feast.

The setting sun shines on the statue of Our Lady of Fatima near the end of the day.

Bishop Robert Brennan gazes at the statue of Our Lady of Fatima as the faithful stop across the street from St. Joseph Cathedral to pray for her intercession.
Many parishes reviving summer, fall festivals

By Doug Bean
Catholic Times Editor

As COVID-19 restrictions begin to ease, a number of parishes throughout the diocese are resuming their festivals this summer and fall.

After the pandemic gripped the country in March 2020 and brought everyday activities to a standstill, large gatherings went by the wayside because of government mandates and the interest of safety. This year, approximately half of the parishes that hold annual festivals decided to go ahead with their outdoor events. The others sitting out this year hope to be back in 2022.

Several parishes pushed their 2021 dates back until late summer hoping that conditions would be more conducive to safely conducting activities that bring parishioners, families and friends together. A few others are still undecided whether to go forward with their festivals.

Four parish events are scheduled to take place in June. Most of the others are planned from mid-July through Labor Day.

Columbus St. Catharine of Siena’s festival, typically held in early June, was moved to the second weekend in August. Columbus Our Lady of Peace’s festival is being replaced by other activities celebrating the parish’s 75th anniversary.

The festival season concludes with the annual Portsmouth St. Mary International Festival on Sept. 17-19 and the Columbus Italian Festival at St. John the Baptist Church on Oct. 8-10.

In Delaware County, two of the larger festivals in the diocese are taking different paths. Sunbury St. John Neumann is going ahead with its festival on June 18-19, but Delaware St. Mary is holding off until 2022.

Deacon Carl Calcara, St. John Neumann’s Community Festival committee chair, had some initial apprehension about whether to go forward after hearing that some of the bigger festivals at Columbus parishes were cancelled, but the committee voted unanimously to proceed.

“We thought it was important to get people together this summer after everybody was cooped up last summer,” Deacon Calcara said. “We just felt that it was important to have something for not only the St. John Newman community but the community at large, the Sunbury-Galena area.

“Our committee members are excited. I think the key is that we’re having everything outside.”

Having everything outside means making some adjustments from past festivals for St. John Neumann and other parishes.

“We’ll have live music, a stage under the tent, our tables will be approximately 6 feet apart, and we’ll follow all the state guidelines,” Deacon Calcara said. “We’ll provide masks, we’re going to have more hand-washing stations, and sanitizer and wipes on every table. We also are going to have volunteers to go around and wipe down the tables. So we’re taking all the precautions that we can.”

Sterling Fundways of Columbus will provide rides while taking the necessary precautions for social distancing and proper sanitizing. “Still a work in progress,” Deacon Calcara said, is how to offer children’s games.

In addition to all activities being outside, a cash raffle will be held instead of a silent auction, and food trucks will be on site in place of food prepared by parish members, including Deacon Calcara’s homemade meatballs and pasta sauce. The local Jet’s Pizza franchise, operated by St. John Neumann parishioner Mike Couchman, will continue as it has the past few years as a major sponsor and food provider.

“If we have great weather, we feel like we’re going to be slammed,” Deacon Calcara said.

Similar to St. John Neumann, Gahanna St. Matthew the Apostle Church is making minor alterations that include additional seating outside and sanitizing stations, and there will be no face painting, hair dye and bounce house this year.

St. Matthew festival chair Rob Kuhns also said that Monte Carlo games remain up in the air because of a potential shortage of dealers.

Columbus St. Timothy’s Festival on the Green will return this summer after the event was cancelled last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Photos courtesy St. Timothy Church

Columbus St. Timothy Church’s Festival on the Green will return this summer after the event was cancelled last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Rides and games will return to St. Timothy’s Festival on the Green and other parish festivals this summer with sanitizing and distancing protocols in place.

Having everything outside means making some adjustments from past festivals for St. John Neumann and other parishes.

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St. Matthew festival chair Rob Kuhns also said that Monte Carlo games remain up in the air because of a potential shortage of dealers.

Columbus St. Timothy’s Festival on the Green will be held a week before St. Matthew’s festival on the weekend of July 9-10.

Longtime St. Timothy festival chair Joe Lorenz estimates that about 80 percent to 90 percent of the activities this year will be outdoors, where rides and games will be spaced farther apart for social distancing. There also will be live music and a special raffle for a 2021 Honda Accord.

One of the events remaining inside will be bingo in the school’s air-conditioned gym. The festival’s signature pizza will be available and more food trucks will be on site to accommodate hungry guests.

“We’re definitely anticipating large crowds,” Lorenz said. “And I’m getting a good response from the volunteers (about 350 annually lend a hand at the festival) and that’s really an indication that people are ready to move on and feel comfortable.”

Among the parishes cancelling their festivals this year in addition to Delaware St. Mary are Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Nicholas, Danville St. Luke, Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona, Columbus Holy Spirit, Columbus St. Elizabeth, Columbus St. Andrew, Columbus St. Anthony, Newark Blessed Sacrament and St. Francis de Sales, and Johnstown Church of the Ascension.
Summer, fall festival schedule for diocesan parishes

Dates and times for summer festivals around the diocese, when available and as supplied to The Catholic Times, are listed below. Several parishes were still deciding on the fate of their festivals at press time. Check parish websites and bulletins for updates throughout the spring and summer.

**JUNE**

**June 13**  
St. Ann/St. Mary  
405 Chestnut St., Dresden  
Corpus Christi procession after the 9 a.m. Mass followed by reception at parish hall

**June 18-19**  
St. John Neumann  
9633 E. State Route 37, Sunbury  
6-11 p.m. Friday, noon-11 p.m. Saturday

**June 18-19**  
St. Rose  
119 W. Water St., New Lexington

**June 25-26**  
Holy Trinity  
Garden Party  
225 S. Columbus, St., Somerset  
6 p.m.-midnight Friday-Saturday

**JULY**

**July 9-10**  
St. Timothy  
1088 Thomas Lane, Columbus  
6 p.m.-midnight Friday and Saturday

**July 15-17**  
St. Matthew the Apostle  
807 Havens Corners Rd., Gahanna  
6-11 p.m. Thursday, 6 p.m.-11 p.m. Friday and Saturday

**July 16-17**  
St. Joseph  
613 N. Tuscarawas Ave., Dover  
5 p.m. Friday, all day Saturday

**July 30-31**  
Immaculate Conception  
414 E. North Broadway, Columbus  
5 p.m. Friday, all day Saturday

**AUGUST**

**Aug. 6-7**  
St. Stephen the Martyr  
4131 Clime Rd., Columbus  
6 p.m.-midnight Friday, 5 p.m.-midnight Saturday

**Aug. 6-7**  
St. Pius X (Tentative)  
1051 S. Waggoner Rd., Reynoldsburg

**Aug. 8**  
Immaculate Conception  
215 E. North St., Kenton  
Noon-7 p.m.

**Aug. 12-14**  
St. tracks of Siena  
500 S. Gould Rd., Columbus  
5-11 p.m. Thursday-Saturday

**Aug. 12-14**  
St. Brendan  
4475 Dublin Rd., Hilliard  
6 p.m.-midnight Friday, 3-6 p.m. (family hours), 6-11:30 p.m. Saturday

**Aug. 13-14**  
St. Mary, Mother of God (German Village)  
361 E. Whittier and Bruck Sts., Columbus  
6 p.m.-midnight Friday and Saturday

**Aug. 13-14**  
St. Cecilia (Tentative)  
434 Norton Rd., Columbus

**Aug. 20-21**  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
3730 Broadway, Grove City  
6 p.m.-midnight Friday and Saturday

**Aug. 26-28**  
St. John of Arc (Tentative)  
10700 Liberty Rd., Powell  
6 p.m.-10 p.m. Thursday, 6 p.m.-11 p.m. Friday and Saturday

**SEPTEMBER**

**Sept. 3-5**  
St. Michael  
5750 N. High St., Worthington  
7-11 p.m. Friday, 5-11 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

**Sept. 17-19**  
St. Mary  
524 6th St., Portsmouth

**OCTOBER**

**Oct. 8-10**  
St. John the Baptist (Tentative)  
Hamlet and Lincoln Sts., Columbus  
Italian Festival  
5-11 p.m. Friday, noon-11 p.m. Saturday, noon-7 p.m. Sunday

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**Save the Date**

The Third Annual Hospitalier’s Dinner

Benefiting the Order of Malta Center of Care

Columbus Region’s Annual Defense of the Faith Lecture  
Keynote Address  

**Dr. Peter Kreeft**  
Professor of Philosophy at Boston College  
Friday September 17, 2021  
6:00 PM to 9:00 PM  
Jessing Center at The Pontifical College Josephinum  
7625 North High Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43235

Please call Len Barbe at 614-738-2464 for more information  
or email lwbarbe@aol.com

The Order of Malta Center of Care (a 501(c)3) is located in the St. John Center, 640 S. Ohio Ave. Columbus, OH which is a part of the Community of Holy Rosary / St. John the Evangelist Parish. It services the needs of the poor and the sick in the surrounding neighborhood. The Center of Care is staffed by volunteers from the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem of Rhodes and of Malta, members of the Catholic Medical Association and many friends.

**POR FAVOR PONGA EN 23 MAYO 2021, NÚMERO**  
**Fecha**

En el caso matrimonial con el nombre MIGUEL ANGEL AGUIRRE and ALEJANDRINA DE JESUS BEZA JUAREZ, el Tribunal de la Diócesis de Columbus, Ohio, en este momento no es consciente de la dirección actual de ALEJANDRINA DE JESUS BEZA JUAREZ. El Tribunal adjunta un documento adjunto de este caso y invita a ella/él a contactar REVEREND DENNIS STEVENSON, JCL, el Juez Presidente y único, no más tarde que 7 JUNE 2021 - teléfono 241-2500 Extensión 3. Cualquiera que sea el paradero actual de ALEJANDRINA DE JESUS BEZA JUAREZ, adjunto pide que hagan saber a ella/él de esta citación o avisa al Tribunal de la dirección actual de ella/él.

**Dado este 11 MAYO 2021 .**  
**Fecha**

EL REVERENDO DENNIS STEVENSON, JCL  
El Juez Presidente  
Sue Ulmer  
La Notaria

In the marriage case styled MIGUEL ANGEL AGUIRRE and ALEJANDRINA DE JESUS BEZA JUAREZ, the Tribunal of the Diocese of Columbus, Ohio is currently unaware of the present address of ALEJANDRINA DE JESUS BEZA JUAREZ. The Tribunal hereafter informs him of the case and invites him to contact REVEREND DENNIS STEVENSON, JCL, Presiding and sole Judge, no later than 7 JUNE 2021 – or call phone 241-2500 Extension 3. Anyone who knows of the whereabouts of ALEJANDRINA DE JESUS BEZA is hereby asked to make this Citation known to her or to inform the Tribunal of his current address.

**Given this 11 MAY 2021:**  
REVEREND DENNIS STEVENSON, JCL  
Presiding Judge  
Sue Ulmer  
Notary
Spirit unleashes God’s power in us

**Scripture Readings**

Father Timothy Hayes

Father Timothy M. Hayes is pastor of Chillicothe St. Mary and St. Peter; and Waverly, St. Mary, Queen of the Missions.

reach the goal God has set for us: fear of the Lord (wonder and awe in God’s presence), piety, fortitude, knowledge, counsel, understanding and wisdom. Faith, hope and love grow in us in proportion to our cooperation with the Spirit.

The account of Pentecost from the Acts of the Apostles indicates that Mary, the mother of Jesus, was present in the time of prayer before the coming of the Spirit. The 12 (now including Matthias in Judas’ place) begin their mission in Jerusalem and end up going out to the whole world.

To evangelize is our common call. This call is eminently practical. It is addressed to us right where we are. It is given to us for the sake of those who are already in our lives and those who will cross our paths in this world. Pentecost reminds us of the power of our confirmation and of the grace at work in us through the sacramental life of the Church. It is time to unleash that power.

Rivers of living water flow from someone who knows Jesus. The Holy Spirit is within us. We have received the gift of the Spirit as an indwelling presence. From the Spirit flow truth, courage, commitment and even a willingness to die for something greater than ourselves.

We are in a world that does not have an openness to truth at present. We don’t like to be challenged. We don’t want to be moved beyond our own comfort zone. And yet, the Spirit moves within us to be more than we are. We cannot do it. Yet, through the Spirit, it will be accomplished. “Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth!”

We are living in an odd world. It is topsy-turvy and upside down. In our world, we hear many voices. We don’t understand one another. There is divis...
**CATHOLIC WORD SEARCH**

**PENTECOST**

E H Z I M B V D E Z I T P A B
M A Y C H Y V S S K Q E X K
B Q L A N G U A G E P J L V Y
O S N D D V A I X T S S C N F
L X B P N H V J E G J E G C P
D D A T Q I T M T M E U H U E
E E D A N F W R X K R G O E T
N R D I R E I F I W N L V E
E E Y H S M P R O B S O Y V R
D H D C L C O E E P A T S S Q
T T A E T Q I U R X L V P R P
D A N E P D U P D Q E H I X B
Q G K P H A I A L F M J R C V
F F E S R A C T S E S G I J V
P E G H E R G H I B S U T C L

**GOD’S POWER, continued from Page 14**

sion. There are broken bonds. We live in a world in need of healing. How will we accomplish anything together if we cannot speak the same language? We live in Babel. We want to reach heaven, but we are stuck on earth, each of us pursuing our own ends. The Spirit wants to gather us together in a world in need of healing. How will we respond in the same way to the best of this world can offer. The Holy Spirit is ready to unleash the newness of Jesus Christ on the world in hearts that are ready to give all. The Spirit needs room to breathe. Transformation begins here.

**HOLY SPIRIT, continued from Page 14**

the dogmas and doctrines of faith, as expressed in the scriptures, the catechism and the theology that is handed on to us through tradition, that the Church opens up the mystery to us. She does this so that we can experience salvation and enter into full personal relationship with the living God.

You may not be able to explain the Trinity, but you can love with your mind, your heart, your soul and all your human strength the God Who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit. God has shared the most intimate truth, something that we would not be able to discover on our own: that the unity of God is a unity that is at the same time a Trinity.

God wants us to know Him. He wants to share with us something of His own inner life because He loves us. To accept this gift as gift and to respond in the same way to the best of our ability, giving our whole selves back to God in the same love is the only proper response. God is real and true, and we can by His grace receive His own life into our human nature.

Intimacy with a true friend means sharing the depths of one’s spirit. Disciples of the Lord Jesus are invited to discover this friendship with Jesus and with one another. In the end, this is the kind of friendship God wants with us. Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own

The whole world is created for love. The love that is at the foundation of the world is the love of the Holy Trinity. God is Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We are made in the divine image, with the rights and responsibilities that make us capable of entering into a real relationship with Him. Will we seek to respond to the Triune God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, Who invite us to enter into a living relationship that will last forever?

God, Father, Son and Spirit, bless us! Free us to enter into the mystery of your love. Come, Holy Spirit! Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on us. Abba, Father, hear our prayer!

**JOB OPENINGS GENESIS HEALTHCARE SYSTEM**

**Zanesville, Ohio**

**Chaplain**

Genesis HealthCare System in Zanesville, Ohio is seeking a full-time Chaplain to provide spiritual support, counseling and advocacy for patients, family members and staff. Requirements include Master’s in Divinity or related field, 4 units of CPE and board certification as a Chaplain. Ideal candidate is a living witness to the Catholic faith through engagement in parish life and has a deep understanding of the Catholic Ethical and Religious Directives and the ability to promote the organization’s Catholic affiliation, teachings and Catholic identity. Qualified candidates are invited to apply online to Job ID #9345 at https://genesishcs.org or send resume to keyberger@genesishcs.org.

**Mission Consultant**

Genesis HealthCare System in Zanesville, Ohio is seeking a full-time Mission Consultant to support the development and implementation of the annual Mission Integration Assessment & Action Plan. Requirements include Bachelors’ degree in pastoral ministry, education, social work, or related field. Ideal candidate is a living witness to the Catholic faith through engagement in parish life and has a deep understanding of the Catholic Ethical and Religious Directives and the ability to promote the organization’s Catholic affiliation, teachings and Catholic identity. Qualified candidates are invited to apply online to Job ID #9305 at https://genesishcs.org or send resume to keyberger@genesishcs.org.

In the marriage case styled JULIE ANN MARTINEZ MONTAYA BROYLES and ELMER EDUARDO GONZALEZ - RECINOS, the Tribunal of the Diocese of Columbus, Ohio is currently unaware of the present address of ELMER EDUARDO GONZALEZ - RECINOS. The Tribunal herewith informs him of the case and invites him to contact REVEREND ROBERT KITSMILLER, JCL, Presiding and sole Judge, no later than 7 JUNE 2021 – or call phone 241-2990 Extension 3. Anyone who knows of the whereabouts of ELMER EDUARDO GONZALEZ - RECINOS is herewith asked to make this Citation known to him or to inform the Tribunal of his current address.

Given this 11 MAY 2021;
REVEREND ROBERT KITSMILLER, JCL
Presiding Judge
Sue Ulmer
Notary
Funeral Mass for Deacon John D. Rankin

On Nov. 3, 1975 at Our Lady of Peace diaconate by Bishop Edward Herrmann Columbus’ second lay member of the and was ordained as the Diocese of Toledo Diaconal School of Education to Lima before coming to Columbus in 1974. He graduated from the Diocese of Toledo Diocesan School of Education and was ordained as the Diocese of Columbus’ second lay member of the ‘diaconate by Bishop Edward Herrmann on Nov. 3, 1975 at Our Lady of Peace Church.

He served that parish as a deacon for 31 years, until his retirement from active ministry in 2006, presiding during that time at the weddings of all his children. After working in the computer industry for decades, he started his second career as a hospital chaplain at Mount Carmel Medical Center in Columbus at age 50, also retiring from that position in 2006. He was preceded in death by his parents; sons, Joseph and Stephen; and sister, Marie Reaman.

Survivors include his wife, Maxine (Emmons); children, J. David (Kristen Westman), Jeanne Rankin, Robert, Richard (Betty), Maria (Jim) Kozelek, Jackie Learne, Christine Balint Rankin and Michael Learn; brother, David (Linda); sister, Elaine (Jim) Flynn; and 11 grandchildren.

Patricia J. Grilliot

Funeral Mass for Patricia J. Grilliot, 66, who died Wednesday, April 28, was celebrated Wednesday, May 5 at Columbus St. Leo the Great Oratory. Burial will be at Sacred Heart Cemetery, Anna.

She was born on July 6, 1932 at McCartyville in Shelby County to Bernard and Frances (Drees) Grilliot and graduated from Mount St. Joseph College in Cincinnati.

She was a teacher at Columbus St. Mary Magdalene School for one year and at Columbus St. Leo School from 1955 to 1994, winning diocesan coach of the year honors several times. She also was honored as teacher of the month by the national publication Today’s Catholic Teacher.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Bernard, Thomas and Gerald, and sisters, Delores Frilling, Naomi Schroeder, Marlene Schwartz and Thelma Kaup. She is survived by a sister, Ruth Gehrlich.

Deacon John D. Rankin

Funeral Mass for Deacon John D. “Jack” Rankin, 84, who died Wednesday, May 12, will be celebrated Friday, May 21 at 10:30 a.m. in Columbus St. Mary Church.

He was born on November 25, 1936 in Lima to Robert and Helen Rankin, was a graduate of Lima St. Rose High School and received a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from the University of Dayton.

He served with U.S. Army Intelligence in Baltimore, then moved back from the University of Dayton.

He graduated from the Diocese of Toledo Diocesan School of Education and was ordained as the Diocese of Columbus’ second lay member of the ‘diaconate by Bishop Edward Herrmann on Nov. 3, 1975 at Our Lady of Peace Church.

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Patricia J. Grilliot

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O’Neil real estate agency celebrates centennial

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

A yellow neon sign in the shape of a house, with the words “For Sale” and “Sold” alternately blinking on and off at night, has been a familiar sight for motorists traveling along North High Street in Columbus’ Clintonville neighborhood since the 1940s.

The sign stands at Pacemont Road and North High in front of the office of C.R. O’Neil & Co., a real estate brokerage that is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year and has been operated by the same Catholic family since it was opened by Charles O’Neil in 1921 at the corner of Patterson Avenue and North High, a few miles south of its current location.

Charles’ son Robert joined the business in 1946 after serving in World War II, became its president in 1967 and ran it until his retirement in 1996. He died in 2001. His wife, Marjorie, 95, is a member of Columbus Immaculate Conception Church. Today, the company is run by Charles O’Neil’s grandsons Dan, who is its president, and Gerry, vice president. Sean, another of Robert’s six sons and five daughters, is an agent with the company, and Dan’s son Timothy represents the next generation in the business.

Charles’ father, James, known by his nickname of “Red,” came to America from County Cork in Ireland and operated a bakery on Cleveland Avenue, south of 5th Avenue, in the Milo-Grogan area of east Columbus. A picture in the real estate office shows Robert as a 5-year-old in a bakery wagon.

Charles eventually became a partner with Red in the bakery. The family also operated a pool room, and Charles was active in Democratic Party politics.

“Milo-Grogan was where immigrants settled when they came to Columbus in the early part of the 20th century,” Gerry O’Neil said. “It was a mixed-nationality area with a population mainly of Italian, Irish or German immigrants. The O’Neils knew a lot of people through their business and political affiliations, and our grandfather decided to branch out from the bakery by obtaining a real estate license to sell them houses.

“From the start, his most important business values were honesty and integrity in his transactions. These were what he learned all his life as a Catholic and what he stressed to his children and grandchildren. He and my father made sure that we had a Catholic education and that we carried the values we learned in Catholic schools throughout our lives.

“I remember in the 1990s when the owner of a property wanted to enforce a racial restriction on who could buy it. I turned him down on the spot because it went against everything I’d been taught in Catholic grade and high schools.”

“A few years after Charles started the company, the Great Depression came along, and people began to ask him to sell their businesses,” Dan O’Neil said. “Soon he was selling more businesses than houses. The company also got into property management, which is where most of its business is today.”

Robert O’Neil, who was born in 1921, the same year the company was founded, was a pilot in the Asian theater of war with the Army Air Corps in World War II and eventually became a flight instructor.

“He wanted to be an airline pilot, but our grandfather convinced him to join the company, which also included an insurance business. After Grandpap retired, Dad sold the insurance business,” Dan said. “I joined it 1971, 50 years after Grandpap started the company and 25 years after Dad joined it.


Dan said a key moment for the company came in 1976, when it became a charter member of the Century 21 group. “That put more of the focus for us on residential sales, though we still continued with property management,” he said. The affiliation with Century 21 ended in 2008.

“At our peak, we had 18 to 20 sales representatives and had listings for 35 to 70 houses a month in Franklin County and the surrounding area,” Gerry said. “The business was different then. You had to work hard to get a house sold because there was so much supply. Now it’s altogether different.”

Today, the Columbus area is one of the nation’s hottest housing markets, with homes often being sold within a day or two of being listed.

Today, the company has 12 sales representatives and specializes in selling and managing small apartment and condo units. “We work with 205 property owners, besides ourselves, who own about 600 units altogether,” Gerry said. “The largest of those properties is a 36-unit apartment complex.

“We specialize in small properties because there are few other companies that do this. Owners of this kind of property appreciate how we help them keep costs down by combining several sites into one purchasing unit and negotiate better deals with businesses.”

The O’Neils have been active in several parishes and with real estate trade associations and Irish-affiliated organizations such as the Shamrock Club and the Ancient Order of Hibernians over the years. Dan is a member of Columbus St. Elizabeth Church, Gerry is a parishioner at Hilliard St. Brendan the Navigator Church and Sean goes to Columbus Immaculate Conception Church.

The O’Neil family also has contributed to the long-term future of the Diocese of Columbus through The Catholic Foundation. One of Robert O’Neil’s brothers, C. Richard O’Neil, an attorney who died in 2006, and his wife, Norma, set up a fund with the foundation which, after Norma’s death, will provide support to diocesan school tuition assistance and to the Shamrock Club and will donate every year to the foundation’s unrestricted fund, which provides money for the areas of greatest need in the diocese.

A neon sign that has stood on North High Street in Columbus at the office of C.R. O’Neil & Co. since the 1940s

Photos courtesy C.R. O’Neil & Co.

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25 Hours Per Week – 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

St. Francis of Assisi Parish is seeking an administrative professional to manage the church office and serve in support of the Pastor and parishioners and as a staff resource, ensuring that parish needs in administration, personnel, finance, and facilities are fulfilled. This position directs and manages these efforts with technical expertise. This position will remain open until filled.

Required skills include: Proficiency with MS Office (Word, Excel, Publisher); Familiarity with payroll and accounting practices and systems is helpful; Excellent organizational skills and efficiency of effort; Excellent oral and written communication and human relation skills are essential; Ability to handle and prioritize multiple, diverse tasks.

Previous business management experience is essential. A Bachelor’s Degree is preferred but not essential.

Send cover letter and resume to: Fr. Fritzner Valcin, St. Francis of Assisi Church, 386 Bottles Ave, Columbus, OH 43214
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- St. Francis DeSales

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In the Diocese of Columbus, the Catholic Home Missions collection will be taken up on the weekend of June 5-6. In 2020, the diocese contributed $41,861.06 to the collection.

I thank you for your generosity on behalf of Bishop Robert Brennan and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) committee in charge of the Home Missions collection.

Home Missions are in the United States and consists of territories that cannot exist on their own. The collection helps to fund 84 dioceses and eparchies in the United States, which represent roughly 44 percent of all U.S. dioceses.

The funds gathered help the mission dioceses in the United States and its territories that lack the resources to provide basic pastoral services for the faithful. These dioceses struggle with severe shortages of priests, poverty among parishioners, difficult or isolated terrain, religious hostility and other circumstances that hinder the efforts to spread the faith.

The active missionaries take part in the apostolate of the Church by promoting evangelization. They share their joy and sacrifices incidental to the care of souls. They devote their best and undivided energies to the service of God.

The smallest Catholic populations tend to exist in rural areas of the South, such as in Mississippi, Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia and the Carolinas.

One example is the Choctaw reservation in central Mississippi, which is made up of eight non-contiguous communities. Father Bob Goodyear, who is from Reynoldsburg and belongs to the Missionary Servants of the Most Holy Trinity, works among the Choctaw in Philadelphia, Mississippi. In his 29 years serving on the reservation, he has never seen a year like 2020.

The COVID-19 virus hit the Choctaw communities harder than any other reservation in the country. The tribal council implemented strict regulations to control the virus’s spread, and the numbers of infected have stabilized but only after many have died. For the Choctaw, death is a sacred moment celebrated with rituals. However, these rituals could not be held due to the pandemic. The reservation comprises 35,000 acres in 10 counties and is home to 11,000 Choctaw. Holy Rosary Indian Mission has three churches some 87 miles apart. St. Therese Mission is located in the Pearl River Community, the center of the reservation.

Most of the Choctaw on the reservation are related, and deaths from the virus touched everyone. One student lost both of his parents to the virus a week before his graduation. Another who was the valedictorian of her high school class lost her mother.

Holy Rosary Indian Mission was one of the Missionary Servants’ first missions, and they have served there for 76 years. The pandemic has taken a financial toll on the mission. The missionaries have always depended on outside benefactors to continue their work among the Choctaw.

Father Goodyear said, “The COVID virus on the reservation has infected 14 percent of the tribe now, and 89 Choctaws have died from the virus. Not being allowed to visit loved ones dying in the hospital or have the traditional three days of family and friends supporting one another has made the grief on the reservation more painful.

“We rescheduled confirmation for November when the virus numbers leveled out, but three of my candidates were exposed to the virus and had to quarantine. The third time was the charm! It was such a spirit-filled celebration of the sacrament.”

On behalf of Bishop Brennan, I thank you for all you do for the mission work of the Church. May our prayers, sacrifices and financial support for the missions bring the expansion of the reign of Christ who shed His blood for all mankind.

Let our ears echo the words of Pope Pius XII: “We shall spare no effort to cause the Catholic religion to shine also upon distant peoples and to have the shadow of the Cross, in which are life and salvation, fall on the remote areas of the earth.”

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