Inside this issue

One-year anniversary:
The Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest celebrated its first year in the diocese and in its new home at Columbus St. Leo the Great Oratory with a Traditional Latin Mass on Oct. 10, Page 8

Young adults gather:
The third Columbus Catholic Young Adult Conference was held Saturday, Oct. 23 at Sunbury St. John Neumann Church with about 80 people in attendance who had the opportunity to listen to talks, participate in group sessions, and attend Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Page 12

Upgrades at St. Charles:
St. Charles Preparatory School is adding a new convocation center to its campus on Columbus' east side and enhancing the existing Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto in an $11.5 million project that is part of its enhancement plans, Page 13

RENAAMED MUSEUM OF CATHOLIC ART AND HISTORY OPENS IN NEW LOCATION

Pages 10-11
Real Presence Real Future initiative coincides with Synod on Synodality
By Doug Bean
Catholic Times Editor

The Synod on Synodality that the Catholic Church will engage in during the next two years has begun in the Diocese of Columbus with the Real Presence Real Future initiative, Bishop Robert Brennan said in a recent homily.

The synodal process, which officially opened Oct. 10 at the Vatican, will start with a consultation phase in which the Church asks dioceses to listen to all of the faithful and gather feedback on specific questions and issues. Each diocese throughout the world will submit its findings to the Holy See by Aug. 15, 2022.

The two-year endeavor will culminate in 2023 with a worldwide synod of bishops, which is defined as a meeting to discuss topics of theological or pastoral significance to prepare a document that offers counsel and direction to the pope.

“What the world is doing right now in this engagement of the synod we’ve already undertaken through Real Presence Real Future,” Bishop Brennan said during his homily at the Saturday Vigil Mass for World Mission Sunday on Oct. 23 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral.

“And we’re doing exactly what we’re asked as we reflect on this beautiful gift that has been given to us in our faith – listening carefully to one another about how we might be able to help proclaim that eternal message of Jesus Christ in the ages that are ever changing.

“What are the needs of the Church? Where is the world crying out? Where is central Ohio crying out: ‘Jesus help me.’ How can you and I be part of proposing that answer.”

The Real Presence Real Future initiative that began in earnest this year in the diocese mirrors the synodal process. Members of the clergy, religious, lay faithful, lay ministers, volunteers and all of the faithful have provided input through consultative sessions throughout the diocese that started in September and end in November.

“As is the case with the Synod on Synodality, the Columbus diocese plans to use the feedback and analysis from Real Presence Real Future to shape the future of the local Church to meet the needs of Catholics in its 23 counties and to facilitate the call to be missionary disciples in everyday lives.

Synodality is considered a process of discernment for religious, clergy and laity facilitated by the Holy Spirit to better understand the fruits of their vocations.

“Indeed, as we walk with Jesus along the way, we ask Him to open our own eyes and help us to see His living presence among us,” Bishop Brennan said. “Help us to remember that we have our eternal priest who understands us more than we understand ourselves because he has taken everything upon himself, all of our human weakness, and he carries it with him and he shows us a new way of living.”

Los Angeles Archbishop Jose Gomez, the president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, welcomes the Synod on Synodality as a chance to learn how the Church can more profoundly serve the people.

“This synod is an opportunity to meet the immense and important request of the Holy Father to engage in dialogue to better understand our call to holiness and feel the responsibility to participate in the life of the Church,” Archbishop Gomez said in October.

“Outreach, communication, support, and encouragement are vital in order to be missionary disciples,” he added. “As is with the nature of the synod, I hope we will learn as we ‘journey together,’ and I pray that the process will enrich and guide the future path of both the local Church as well as the universal Church over the course of the next two years and beyond.”

In a homily last month at the outset of the Synod on Synodality, Cardinal Timothy Dolan of New York described what he perceives as Pope Francis’ vision.

“He wants us to join him in praying, listening, discerning, examining ourselves personally, and the Church communally, to see if we’re truly on the path Jesus has set for his beloved bride, His mystical body, the Church,” Dolan said.

“He has reminded us of certain clear essentials intended by Jesus, constant, although, at times, we admit, clouded and dimmed, in the Church’s amazing 2,000-year drama.”

A prayer for the synod can be found on the web at prayforthesynod.va or through a mobile app “Click to Pray.”

Additional information can be obtained on the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ website at usccb.org. To learn more about the Real Presence Real Future initiative in the Columbus diocese, visit realpresence-realfuture.org.

Local news and events

Ethnic Ministries Office offers series of events for Black Catholic History Month

A series of programs in November to celebrate Black Catholic History Month was set to begin at 5 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 4 at Columbus St. Dominic Church’s parish center hall, 455 N. 20th St.

Sponsored by the diocesan Ethnic Ministries Office, the Black Catholic History Month programming highlights the valuable accomplishments and contributions of Black Catholics.

The presentations continue Saturday, Nov. 13 and Sunday, Nov. 20 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Gahanna St. Matthew Church, 807 Havens Corners Road.

Each session will include a guest speaker with a different theme, light reception and dialogue about Black Catholic history.

The events are free, but registration is required. Registration is available online at www.columbuscatholic.org/unityincommunity.

Questions about the sessions should be directed to Pam Harris, director for the Ethnic Ministries Office, at ethnicministries@columbuscatholic.org or 614-221-7990.

The programs are made possible by contributions to the Black and Indian Grant. The Black and Indian Missions Office supports the evangelization of African American, Native American and Alaska Native communities.

To learn more about the missions office, visit www.blackandindianmissions.org.

Prospective students, parents invited to Newark Catholic

Eighth-grade students interested in attending Newark Catholic High School in 2022-2023 are invited to visit the high school on Wednesday, Nov. 17 from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

All students in the Knox-Licking vicariate are welcome to come. An information session for parents also will
November 7, 2021

National Vocations Awareness Week: Be joyful, encouraging to young people interested in discerning religious life

By Sr. Constance Veit, l.s.p.

I do a lot of outreach to the young on behalf of my religious congregation, so I try to be aware of trends in vocations work and the common traits of emerging generations.

Recently I took some time to review the latest Study on Religious Vocations, co-sponsored by the National Religious Vocation Conference and the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate, hoping that it would give me an “aha moment” on how to interest young women in our community of Little Sisters of the Poor.

I was struck by a section of the report entitled Intergenerational Living. According to the 2020 NRVC/CARA study, a mere 13 percent of perpetually professed members of religious communities are younger than 60, while the same proportion are at least 90 years of age.

These are pretty sobering statistics! It was consoling to read the following testimony from a young religious: “It is beautiful to have all different generations and ethnicities in one community, in one house, if we allow ourselves to see that beauty.”

What a hope-filled attitude on the part of a young religious! It really inspired me to stop bemoaning the aging of our religious communities and start seeing the beauty.

So, as we observe National Vocations Awareness Week, I would like to address a message of hope to my fellow women and men religious who, like me, are not so young anymore.

May you too take heart in realizing that young people seeking religious life are not as deterred by the older demographics of most of our communities as we thought. They don’t seem to mind that many of us are older – but they do hope that we will live simply, in solidarity with the poor, and that we will live and pray together in a spirit of joy.

So how do we connect with the young? Let’s take a few cues from Pope Francis!

We might begin by striving to become young again. The pope has suggested that we seek to renew our youthfulness at every stage of life.

“As we mature, grow older and structure our lives,” he wrote, “we should never lose that enthusiasm and openness to an ever-greater reality.”

In Christus Vivit, our Holy Father encouraged us to let ourselves be loved by God, for he loves us just as we are.

A young friend and former FOCUS missionary told me that this is the essential message we need to communicate to young people. They need to know that they are loved as they are, even though God wants to give them more.

God “values and respects you,” we might say to them, borrowing from the pope’s words “but he also keeps offering you more: more of his friendship, more fervor in prayer, more hunger for his word, more longing to receive Christ in the Eucharist, more desire to live his Gospel, more inner strength, more peace and spiritual joy.”

This joy is something about which the pope very often speaks, and it is something that speaks deeply to young people in their vocational discernment.

It is something they see in the quality of a gaze or a smile, in the serenity with which a consecrated person embraces trials or suffering, and in the generous gift of self to the poor day after day.

Pope Francis insisted on joy in a recent speech to Discalced Carmelites, “It is ugly to see consecrated men and women with a long face. It is ugly, it is ugly. Joy must come from within: that joy that is peace, an expression of friendship.”

God forbid that any of us become ugly as we grow older!

In Christus Vivit, the exhortation he wrote following the Synod on young people in the life of the church, Pope Francis reminded us that Christ is alive and he wants us to be fully alive.

“When you feel you are growing old out of sorrow, resentment or fear,” he wrote, “he will always be there to restore your strength and your hope.”

So, let’s ask Jesus, “himself eternally young,” to give us hearts that are ever young and capable of loving, ready to welcome the new generations who knock on our doors just as Elizabeth welcomed the Virgin Mary into her home in the Visitation.

Let’s witness to these young women and men the JOY that fills our hearts, and is eager to fill theirs as well, if only they give themselves to Him!

Sister Constance Veit is director of communications for the Little Sisters of the Poor.

In preparation for facilitating Real Presence, Real Future parish consultation sessions, I found these words by Pope Francis: “Obeying God is listening to God, having an open heart to follow the path that God points out to us. Obedience to God is listening to God, and it sets us free.” BPRF is just that — listening to God’s plans for our diocese, for us. I am merely facilitating collaboration and dialogue. Everybody in every parish who, by listening to God, will think of or support new ideas, be open to change for the future, and, ultimately, obey God’s plan for the Diocese. In that, we find our own path to the salvation that sets us free.

For more on the life of faith and discipleship in the Diocese of Columbus, visit www.RealPresenceRealFuture.org.
Twitter: Challenges in life are rich opportunities to become more the person God is calling us to be. I recently received some challenging medical news that brought me to my knees. As I cried out in worry and wonder, I mentally began to plan how this next part of our journey would look. As is typical for me, a million thoughts bounced around in my mind as to how to prepare and control each moment, to keep everything normal.

I’m so grateful for the voice of the Lord that speaks directly to my heart. I felt the pause He placed there in that moment, His voice reaching the depth of my thoughts. Why am I always trying to keep things normal? Is normal where I grow? Is it where I am open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit?

Challenges in life are rich opportunities to become more the person God is calling us to be. We can look in the mirror and see who we want to be, but without the surrender to God’s will and the embrace of the cross, we can never become who He created us to be.

Many of us are fortunate to have the hindsight to look back and see how we have become the woman or man of strength and faith we wanted to be. We remember those valleys as formative moments, and, at times, we even miss them because of our reliance on Christ in those times.

I am entering one of those times, and it is the odd-est, most Christian thing to say, but I am excited. As I humbly recognize my inability to control this new situation, I release the worry and breathe in the grace to step forward in trust. I begin to see each encounter as a moment of God working within me.

When this journey began, while nervous and apprehensive about the future, I was in for this next part of my journey with the Lord. I knew I would come out shining brighter, more radiant in my faith than when I began. My relationship with the Lord would become tighter, and His presence in my life would be magnified.

I will admit to my humanity being stronger as six weeks in I sat with the Lord, asking for this cup to pass me by. In the candlelit room of my vigil, I sat with the Lord and asked Him if we were there yet. I told him I was done. Like a child, who lacks the vision to see the joy coming when the destination is reached after a long trip, I sat with the Lord, and He answered me.

“My child,” He said quietly to my heart, “we haven’t even finished loading the car.” I wanted to run. I wanted to hide. But He sat with me, and His presence quieted my heart.

When we use the word journey, it usually involves some type of adventure. It speaks to sacrifice and growth, the reward being the view at the end. An epic journey typically also involves friendship—a hero’s quest, if you will, with lessons abounding. I am choosing to view this next part as a hero’s quest. There will be trials, celebrations, mountains, valleys and a few hobbits along the way.

I have loyal, deep friends who are walking beside my family and me. Like Moses, whose arms were held up for the battle by Aaron and Hur, these friends are willing to go to great lengths walking with me on this path. They are making it an adventure filled with deep love, abiding faith and laughter that rings from the depths of our souls. With them, I feel the Lord’s presence beside me.

I am reminded that while we are still packing the car for this journey, the car is loaded with all we will need. There will be prayer. All will be fed. There will be time for great talks together and time for silence to ponder. Laughter will come in and fill the void when the air gets heavy, and, through it all, I will be upheld, and God will be glorified.

Christian suffering is like a black-and-white painting that with each conversation, every prayer, every encounter where God is made welcome and visible becomes filled and shaded with vibrant color. Our eyes are lifted in wonder at the transformation made visible only through embracing our cross, opening our hearts and walking forward with trust where the Lord is asking us to go.

**An epic journey filled with challenges and opportunities**

**ALL THAT WE HAVE**

MaryBeth Eberhard

MaryBeth Eberhard writes about marriage, life experiences of a large family and special needs. She attends Sunbury St. John Neumann Church.

As I humbly recognize my inability to control this new situation, I release the worry and breathe in the grace to step forward in trust. I begin to see each encounter as a moment of God working within me.

When this journey began, while nervous and apprehensive about the future, I was in for this next part of my journey with the Lord. I knew I would come out shining brighter, more radiant in my faith than when I began. My relationship with the Lord would become tighter, and His presence in my life would be magnified.

I will admit to my humanity being stronger as six weeks in I sat with the Lord, asking for this cup to pass me by. In the candlelit room of my vigil, I sat with the Lord and asked Him if we were there yet. I told him I was done. Like a child, who lacks the vision to see the joy coming when the destination is reached after a long trip, I sat with the Lord, and He answered me.

“My child,” He said quietly to my heart, “we haven’t even finished loading the car.” I wanted to run. I wanted to hide. But He sat with me, and His presence quieted my heart.

When we use the word journey, it usually involves some type of adventure. It speaks to sacrifice and growth, the reward being the view at the end. An epic journey typically also involves friendship—a hero’s quest, if you will, with lessons abounding. I am choosing to view this next part as a hero’s quest. There will be trials, celebrations, mountains, valleys and a few hobbits along the way.

I have loyal, deep friends who are walking beside my family and me. Like Moses, whose arms were held up for the battle by Aaron and Hur, these friends are willing to go to great lengths walking with me on this path. They are making it an adventure filled with deep love, abiding faith and laughter that rings from the depths of our souls. With them, I feel the Lord’s presence beside me.

I am reminded that while we are still packing the car for this journey, the car is loaded with all we will need. There will be prayer. All will be fed. There will be time for great talks together and time for silence to ponder. Laughter will come in and fill the void when the air gets heavy, and, through it all, I will be upheld, and God will be glorified.

Christian suffering is like a black-and-white painting that with each conversation, every prayer, every encounter where God is made welcome and visible becomes filled and shaded with vibrant color. Our eyes are lifted in wonder at the transformation made visible only through embracing our cross, opening our hearts and walking forward with trust where the Lord is asking us to go.

**let your light shine before others**

**OPENDOOR COLUMBUS**

**SEEKING VOLUNTEERS!**

OpenDoor provides one year free services (a Table) to a woman recovering from addiction. Tables are composed of 6-8 volunteers who make a year commitment to act as a team of life specialists, encouragers and advocates who meet once a week to transform their relational and social capital into tools for these recovering women.

CONTACT TAMMY FOELLER

- info@opendoor-columbus.com
- (614) 327-3847

WEBSITE

opendoor-columbus.com

INSTAGRAM

@opendoorcolumbus

**SAVE THE DATE FOR MOMMIES MATTER ANNUAL FALL FUNDRAISER**

November 12th, 7pm

A Virtual Livestream Event

A NIGHT OF COMEDY, MAGIC, AUCTIONS, RAFFLES, AND MORE in support of pregnant, single mothers

MOMMIESMATTER.ORG/FALL-FUNDRAISER
She used to insist that our house is a Diamond Castle. I didn’t know how she could ignore the ongoing battle with termites, the drafts around every doorway, the little “extras” that only a centennial farmhouse can deliver.

She didn’t seem to think that the bowed floors or the peeling plaster were a problem with it being considered a Diamond Castle. She must not have a lot of electronic demands, so the lack of enough outlets was not a hurdle. Diamond Castles must have creaks and bends and bugs galore.

And here I always thought a Castle would have turrets and spotless floors. When I heard the phrase, I pictured sparkling windows and I smell baking pies.

If our house was a Diamond Castle, then it wasn’t my fault, that’s for sure!

Yet, to my then-four-year-old, there weren’t the same limitations. If she could imagine it, it could happen.

That must be what Jesus had in mind when He told His disciples to be like little children. There they were, wondering how He would conquer Rome, and He was trying to explain to them that the Kingdom wasn’t what they had in mind.

They saw a rundown farmhouse in need of more repairs than they could afford. He knew it was a Diamond Castle.

I don’t blame the disciples for being a little doubtful. I can’t fault them their skepticism. In fact, I relate with them.

So often, in my role as a mother, my children — especially when they were young — would bring me treasures. They would hold them up, proof of the impossible, and I’d shrug, scoff or laugh. I wasn’t trying to be cruel; I’m just an adult.

This natural cynicism often crops up when I first read a story of the adventures of long ago, especially one that involves knights. Oh, don’t get me wrong — I love them dearly. I want to hear all about “happily ever after.”

After all, I’m the mom of two princesses, and they come by it naturally enough.

It was near 1134 when three knights, all lords of Eppes, left for the Crusades to defend Christ’s tomb in the Holy Land. They were captured in an ambush and taken as prisoners to Cairo, Egypt.

They couldn’t have been the first knights the sultan had captured, and maybe he had made a game of getting the crusaders to renounce their Lord for their freedom. I imagine the sultan luring them with all sorts of treats, from food to comfort to romance. He might have sent his wisest philosophers and scribes to battle reason with the knights, when all else failed.

As the king, he wouldn’t want to be stumped by foreign prisoners. By now, everyone knows about this little game ... and the fact that he’s losing it.

And so, unable to think of anything else to try, the sultan sends his daughter to persuade the three Eppes lords.

By this time, I wonder if the knights accepted that they would probably never see their homeland again. I wonder what sort of prayers they were praying, and I have no doubt that they were invoking Mary, among many other saints, for strength and courage.

In walks the lovely Princess Ismerie. What could she have been thinking? Were they in the dungeon or in some beautiful sitting room? Was she looking forward to convincing the knights, or was she an unwilling instrument of her father’s plans?

At some point, religion must have come up in their conversation because the knights have a chance to tell her that Jesus, the Son of Mary, is the Son of God.

Was there a pause? Had he blurted it out accidentally? Were they worried that she would get angry, get up, order them killed?

Whatever the moment was like, we know that the princess asked to see Jesus and Mary.

After all, there’s nothing like a good picture to convince you.

The knights were in a bind. How could they possibly deliver an image to Princess Ismerie?

They did what anyone in their position would do — they pleaded with the angels and saints in heaven. We’re told that they prayed all through the night. At some point, an angel came, carrying a small statue of Mary holding Jesus.

Ismerie was quite surprised to see the statue, but she must have known something was going on: the dungeons were filled with light and there was a perfume lingering in the air. At this point, her holy curiosity got the best of her, and she took the statue with her to her rooms.

That night, Mary herself appeared to Ismerie. She asked Ismerie to free the knights and become a Christian. The princess snuck down and set the prisoners free, escaping with them. They all fell asleep after they crossed the Nile, the princess still holding her little statue.

When they awoke, they were near the village of Liance, and Mary is honored as Our Lady of Liance. Soon the village — and the title — became Liesse.

Kings and queens are among the pilgrims who honor Mary under this title, acknowledging the miracles that are possible. I honor her too, because it is here, curled beside her as she tells me this tale, that I see that old farmhouses really can be Diamond Castles.

While the “three T’s” of time, talent and treasure are common expressions of stewardship, hospitality, formation, service and prayer make up its four pillars.

Hospitality is often referred to as the cornerstone of parish stewardship, and I don’t think I have ever visited or worked with a parish community that did not self-identify as “welcoming.”

This begs the question: Is being a “welcoming parish” enough given the many challenges of today? Does hospitality remain a key concern of parishioners?

“When I was a stranger, you welcomed me.” (Matthew. 25:35) Jesus Christ teaches that whenever we welcome one of the least of our sisters and brothers, we welcome Christ Himself. Practicing stewardship means seeking the face of Christ in one another even with masks, even on Zoom, even when standing 6 feet apart.

Our willingness as a faith community to welcome, serve and pray for all visitors, particularly those in need, must remain a core tenet of parish stewardship. Honest and sincere hospitality can inspire a guest to take the leap, accept the invitation and become a fellow parishioner.

And given the isolation and feelings of separation among many of our parishioners, our hospitality must be extended, not reduced, beyond the visiting stranger or guest. The visitor and the parishioner alike desire a warm and friendly welcome in a sincere and generous way.

Consider doing these three things today:

First, include a link to enter “prayer request” on your Mass livestream or the posted recording. Mention when the congregation will be praying for these requests, and invite viewers to pray with you from wherever they are.

Second, when having parish Zoom events, ask if any guests are participating. Ask them to share who invited them and thank them for attending. You can follow up with a “thank-you” email and ask if they would like to know when other parish events will be scheduled.

Third, work with the pastor, liturgy committee or parish council to schedule a special Mass for the visitor. Ask parishioners for names and addresses of people they would like to invite to watch the livestream or attend Mass. Parishioners who have not regularly attended Mass or events can be included. Send out special invitations, and include a special blessing over everyone at the Mass.

Christian stewardship remains a grateful response to God’s love, a love we are called to imitate. It provides us with opportunities to grow in our faith, and our acts of hospitality invite us to experience, witness and live stewardship as a way of life.

Let’s get creative in our welcome, and extend hospitality however we can.
By Sister John Paul Maher, OP

It is good to remember that a multitude is cheering for us, a multitude of angels, saints and saints-in-progress, desires and acts for our true good. They are interceding for us so we will reach our greatest good: friendship with God and His loving embrace in heaven.

By God’s generosity, we are not alone. A multitude accompanies us spiritually with encouragement, as if to say, “Persevere,” and “Reach heaven!” This awareness of being part of a spiritual community, joining heaven and earth, is a central theme of the liturgy.

On Nov. 1, All Saints Day, the Church rejoices in Christ’s victory in the lives of the saints. The saints are pilgrims who have arrived! And yet, the focus of concern in the liturgy is on us, to encourage those still on the way.

In the Collect of the Mass for All Saints, the priest asks God that “the merits of all the saints, bestow on us ... through the prayers of so many intercessors, an abundance of reconciliation with you for which we so earnestly long.” In this prayer, the Church gently reminds us that we need reconciliation and that the prayers and merits of the saints help us turn to God.

In the Prayer Over the Offerings, the priest prays, “As we believe the Saints already to be assured of immortality, so we may experience their concern for our salvation.” What a consolation to recall that the saints are concerned about us! They are filled with the love of God and the joy of His salvation and want nothing more than for us to join them in their happiness. We can thank God for the prayers of the saints.

The liturgical calendar moves us from saints to All Souls on Nov. 2. Like the saints, the souls in purgatory also want us to see God face to face. The souls in purgatory know better than we do the impact of sin and its consequences. They earnestly hope we can be spared the sufferings of purification in the next life. We can ask them to pray for us so we avoid sin, and, in charity, we can pray for them to see God very soon.

The members of the Body of Christ, the Church on earth, also intercede for us. It is a great mystery, how the prayers of the faithful are heard by God and how the grace of these prayers finds needy souls.

Some people are chosen to experience more suffering in this life and, by God’s grace, embrace it for the good of souls and the love of God. In modern times, we see this in the example of Padre Pio and in the martyrs of the 20th century.

A humble, patient endurance of trials over time is also of great spiritual benefit to souls. One example of this is the newly beatified Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński, who endured imprisonment by the communists in 1950s Poland.

Before his arrest, he worked with ingenuity to help rebuild the Church in Poland after it had lost many priests in concentration camps. He wrote, “Martyrdom is undoubtedly an honorable thing, but God leads His Church not only along an extraordinary way, that of martyrdom, but also along an ordinary way, that of apostolic work.” (A Freedom Within: The Prison Notes of Stefan Cardinal Wyszyński, 1982, pages 17-18)

After poor treatment by the prison guards, the cardinal wrote: “They would never force me to hate them, no matter what they did.” (A Freedom Within, page 66) He knew they had no power over his choice to imitate Christ interiorly. He chose forgiveness over hate and persevered in love.

Perseverance looks different for each person. For all of us, it includes fidelity to Christ, by taking the steps necessary to act with virtue and love, despite hardships.

While we gain strength and encouragement from the prayers and sacrifices of our brothers and sisters in Christ, let us make our own contribution to grace for others. We can reflect:

How can I act today to make it easier for others to persevere in virtue? What work of mercy does someone need from me today so they can get through life’s challenges and not be discouraged? When will I pray today for people who are struggling to avoid sin?

Let us beg God for the grace of perseverance, for ourselves and others. Let us be encouraged by Christ’s relentless love every day of our pilgrimage. He is with us always! (Matthew 28:20)

Sister John Paul Maher, OP, is the principal at Worthington St. Michael School and a member of the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist.

On John Paul II’s 75th anniversary

By any worldly measure, 1946 was an annus horribilis in Poland. With the exceptions of Cracow and Lodz, every Polish city lay in ruins. The homeless and displaced numbered in the millions. As a ruthless Stalinism tightened its grip on a country that had been doubly decimated during World War II, losing 20% of its pre-war population, heroes of the anti-Nazi resistance were executed on spurious charges by Poland’s new communist overlords. Yet in the oft-puzzling ways of Providence, that Polish annus horribilis was also an annus mirabilis in which the seeds of a far brighter future were planted.

On February 18, 1946, Adam Stefan Sapieha was named a cardinal by Pope Pius XII. As archbishop of Cracow, Sapieha became a national symbol of resistance to Nazi barbarism. On his return to Poland’s spiritual and cultural capital from the consistory where he received the red hat, the Polish-Lithuanian aristocrat known as the “unbroken prince” was met at the train station by a vast crowd, which picked up his car and carried it in a triumphal procession to the archiepiscopal residence; Sapieha had conducted a clandestine seminary there while a Nazi reign of terror throttled his diocese.

Five weeks later, on March 25, 1946, Stefan Wyszyński, a seminarist professor who had been an underground resistance chaplain during the war, was named bishop of Lublin. Two years later, Wyszyński would become archbishop of Gniezno and Warsaw, Primate of Poland, and the undisputed leader of a Church that became the safe deposit box of Poland’s national identity during four decades of communist efforts to create the New Soviet Man.

And on November 1, 1946, Cardinal Sapieha ordained Karol Wojtyła to the priesthood. In June 1979, as Pope John Paul II, Wojtyła would return to Poland and ignite a revolution of conscience that was instrumental in liberating east central Europe from communism, ending the Cold War and giving Europe a new chance at peace, freedom, prosperity, and solidarity.

Cardinal Sapieha’s example in that clandestine wartime seminary was decisive in forming Karol Wojtyła’s concept of the priest as the defender of the dignity and rights of his people. During the months when the future pope was being sheltered from the Gestapo in the archbishop’s residence, Wojtyła and his classmates saw the elderly nobleman go into his chapel every night and place the problems of the day, dire in the extreme, before the Lord in prayer. Priestly courage in the face of tyranny is nurtured in prayer as the ordained priest lives out the imitation of Christ, who embraced a sacrificial destiny for the salvation of others. Karol Wojtyła learned that from Adam Stefan Sapieha, and then deployed that heroic ideal of priestly service to bend history’s course in a more humane direction.

Wojtyła’s relationship with the recently-beatified Wyszyński was more complicated. In 1958, the older man had insisted that the younger accept his nomination as auxiliary bishop of Cracow, although Wojtyła, citing his youth, wasn’t eager for a mitre. Several years later, Wyszyński, for his part, wasn’t enthusiastic about Wojtyła becoming archbishop of Cracow, thinking him an intellectual who might be manipulated by the communist regime. The Primate eventually came around, the appointment was made, and Wyszyński quickly came to understand that Wojtyła was every bit as deft and formidable a foe of the communist regime as could be wished. Wojtyła’s constant public defereence to Wyszyński foiled communist attempts to drive wedges into the Polish Catholic leadership. And in the Primate, Wojtyła found an example of how to combine firm strategic resolve with tactical flexibility in dealing with a regime whose secret police deployed a special department dedicated to “disintegrating” the Catholic Church.

John Paul II would put what he learned from Sapieha and Wyszyński to good use on the world stage as he became the most politically consequential pope since the High Middle Ages. And he did so not by playing the political game by the world’s rules but by being a witness to Christ and to the truths about our humanity that we learn from the incarnate Son of God who embodies them in a unique way. There are lessons here for priests and bishops today, especially those confronted with what John Paul called the “culture of death” in its many forms.

Priests and bishops who challenge the 21st-century culture of death are sometimes deplored as “culture warriors.” I prefer to think of them as apostles, men who have been inspired by the luminous priesthood of Karol Wojtyła, who was himself inspired by the priestly witness of Adam Stefan Sapieha and Stefan Wyszyński.
Canon David Silvey encountered the Traditional Latin Mass for the first time when he was 16 years old. Ten years later, he was celebrating the sacred liturgy as a priest.

For the past year, Canon Silvey has served as rector of Columbus St. Leo the Great Oratory. The oratory was established in 2020 by Bishop Robert Brennan in the former parish church as an apostolate of the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest, a worldwide religious order that offers Holy Mass according to the Usus Antiquior, or old rite, commonly known today as the Latin Mass. St. Leo existed as a diocesan parish in the Merton Village area on Columbus’ south side for most of the 20th century. In 1999, the diocese closed the church due to declining membership and suppressed St. Leo as an active parish.

The St. Leo Preservation Society has worked for the past 20 years to maintain the beloved church, which had been used for weddings, funerals, special Masses and the Korean Catholic community before the institute arrived on Oct. 1, 2020.

For Canon Silvey, 31, the Columbus assignment is his first as a rector, which is referred to in diocesan churches as the parish pastor. After he was ordained on July 7, 2016, at the institute’s Sts. Michael and Gaetano Church in Florence, Italy, by Cardinal Raymond Burke, his duties have included vicar (associate pastor) at St. Francis de Sales Oratory in St. Louis, Missouri, his native state, and assisting Cardinal Burke in his Rome office.

It was across the state, in the Kansas City area, where Canon Silvey was raised, that the seed was planted for his religious vocation. And the soil proved to be quite fertile in the Catholic homeschooing family of five children.

A younger brother, Bryan, is now Canon Bryan Silvey. He was ordained to the priesthood in July for the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest and assigned to St. Gianna Oratory in Tucson, Arizona.

And a younger sister, Megan, entered the women’s branch of the institute, known as the Sisters Adorers of the Royal Heart of Jesus Christ Sovereign Priest, and received the religious name Sister Margaret Mary. She is currently serving in Italy.

An older brother recently moved to Cleveland, and a younger sister remains at home.

The road that eventually led Canon David Silvey to the priesthood and to Columbus started at Old St. Patrick Oratory in Kansas City, which, not coincidentally, is under the care of the institute.

“I was 16 years old when my family first attended a traditional Latin liturgy,” Canon Silvey recalled. “I was aware of its existence, but this was my first experience with it.”

He became acquainted with the parish priest and was invited to start serving on the altar. As many Catholic men who are in their 60s or older can attest, serving for a Latin Mass requires extensive memorization of responses and attention to detail at the altar to reverently assist the priest.

“So I learned to serve the Mass, and I became very attracted to the traditional liturgy and also to the spirituality of the order – the beautiful celebration of the liturgy and the spirituality of St. Francis de Sales,” Canon Silvey said.

Growing up, he had thought off and on about a calling to the priesthood, but “then, when I came into contact with the traditional liturgy and with the spirituality of the institute, that feeling became a little bit more focused.”

“The faith was always important in our family, but it was really with time that we rediscovered the importance of faith more and more,” he said. “My mother in teaching us would often say that she was also teaching herself and learning more and more about the faith. The discovery of the Traditional Mass made that flourish all the more. It was just a very special discovery for us.”

After high school, he became a candidate for the institute’s seminary. His first year was spent in formation at the oratory in St. Louis before going to St. Philip Neri Seminary at Gricigliano in Tuscany, Italy, about 170 miles from Rome, to study for the priesthood.

The typical path to ordination is seven years upon entering, and that includes one year of studying and helping at one of the institute’s parishes, which Canon Silvey did in Italy.

Not only must the order’s seminarians become proficient in Latin, but they also must acquire fluency in French, which is considered the community’s common language. All classes are taught in French, and exams are given in the language as well.

“We do have quite a proficiency in French because of that immersion experience,” Canon Silvey said.

As for Latin, exposure to Latin in homeschooling studies and serving at Mass in high school built a foundation for learning the official language of the Church while in the seminary.

“I didn’t have to start at the very beginning, and so I was able to begin my Latin studies at a slightly higher level,” he said.

Along the way, Canon Silvey also picked up some Italian while working at a parish and studying in Italy. Those language skills would come in handy later.

After ordination in 2016, he was sent to St. Louis for a year as vicar at St. Francis de Sales Oratory. In 2017, his superiors assigned him to serve in Rome as one of two priests assisting Cardinal Burke, the former bishop of La Crosse, Wisconsin and St. Louis and the former prefect of the Apostolic Signature, the Vatican equivalent of the U.S. Supreme Court.
Latin Mass community flourishing at St. Leo the Great Oratory

By Doug Bean
Catholic Times Editor

On any given Sunday, the pews are filled at St. Leo the Great Oratory with Catholics of all ages. Infants, octogenarians and everyone in between come each week to be awed by the splendor of what’s often referred to as the Mass of the Ages, also known as the Traditional Latin Mass. Since Bishop Robert Brennan put the former St. Leo the Great Church in the Merion Village area on the south side of Columbus under the care of the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest order last October, the newly established St. Leo the Great Oratory has witnessed steady growth during the past year.

On Sunday, Oct. 10, the oratory commemorated its one-year anniversary with a Solemn High Mass. Canon Matthew Talarico, the U.S. provincial superior of the order, presided at the celebration with Mass assistance from Canon David Silvey, rector of St. Leo the Great Oratory, as deacon and Father Tyron Tomson, the pastor at Lancaster St. Bernadette and Breman St. Mary churches, as subdeacon.

Canon Talarico “had seen the church and gotten to know the community a little bit over the years when he visited occasionally for spiritual conferences, and so he was very pleased to be able to open up this apostolate here in Columbus,” Canon Silvey said.

“And he was very happy to have the opportunity to come back after the parish opened a year ago to see the progress and how the community is growing and responding to the oratory.”

The youthful faces in the congregation for that Mass belie the perception that the Traditional Latin Mass appeals only to those who never accepted the changes to the Mass initiated after the Second Vatican Council. The number of families with small children and young adults might come as a surprise to anyone who eschews the Old Rite, but the growth of this parish and orders such as the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest indicates otherwise.

Since Cardinal Raymond Burke, who was then the bishop of La Crosse, Wisconsin, invited the institute to the United States in 2001, the order has established 18 oratories across the country, with Columbus the first in Ohio. Other locations in surrounding states include Detroit and Pittsburgh.

The Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter, another order dedicated to the celebration of the Traditional Latin Mass, is present in 39 dioceses in the United States and seven in Canada. Ohio locations include Holy Family Church in Dayton and Queen of the Holy Rosary Parish in Vienna, near Youngstown.

The Old Mass has attracted young couples such as Joe and Liz Overholt and their four children, who attended their first High Mass at St. Leo around Thanksgiving 2020 and immediately fell in love.

“That was just a whole different experience for us,” Joe, 36, said. “We walked out of there saying, ‘What was that?’ And we have been going there ever since.”

They make the one-hour trip each Sunday from their home in Fredericktown in Knox County to St. Leo. And they are among the many who travel from as far as Portsmouth and other locations throughout the diocese and beyond.

“People in the Latin Mass community are road warriors,” Joe said. “They don’t mind driving a little way. It’s been good to hear each other’s stories, and we have that common ground of the faith and values, and so that’s a great thing.”

In just a short time, the Overholts have become immersed in parish life. Their oldest son will be confirmed by Bishop Brennan on Nov. 7, and two of their boys serve at the altar.

“We’ve just had a great experience here at St. Leo, and we’ve met a lot of wonderful families,” Joe said. “We’ve just really hit it off with those families, and we couldn’t ask for a better leader than Canon Silvey.”

Installation of communion rails at St. Leo the Great Oratory was well underway last week. The communion rails had to be rebuilt after they were removed from the church when changes were made to the sacred liturgy at the Second Vatican Council.

“It’s an amazing community of people and families, and that’s been a really rich blessing to be able to build bonds with those families over the past year,” said Liz, 33, who like many adults with young families in the parish homeschools the couple’s children. “And it keeps growing. We see new families there all the time. And we make a point of talking to them after Mass.

“People have been able to linger and get to know each other at the park across the street from the church. And we’ve had get-togethers at our house with St. Leo parishioners.”

Joe and Liz are both recent converts to Catholicism.

The two had met at a nondenominational church, where Joe’s father served as pastor until he died in 2016. His death “shattered our church world,” Joe said, and started them on a faith journey that eventually led to the Catholic Church.

Liz’s only connection to the Catholic faith came through grandparents who were founding members of New Albany Church of the Resurrection. She remembers going to church there with them as a little girl and, as fate would have it, ended up back there being confirmed as a Catholic in 2018. Joe was confirmed a year later after going through religious instruction at Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul Church.

“Liz had her journey into the Catholic faith, and I was not on board at all,” Joe said. “I didn’t want to be Catholic. I didn’t want anything to do with Catholicism. So it’s been a crazy ride from five years ago to where we are now.”

The turning point in his conversion came by “really just seeing that the essence of God is in the Eucharist,” Joe said.

“That’s one of the things that really sealed the deal for me. Going from a nondenominational Protestant background and seeing how the wheels fell off after my father died, I was learning through RCIA about the Catholic Church and papal succession and apostolic succession, and that was really appealing to me after I saw our church just kind of break down.”

The couple’s first exposure to a Latin Mass came at the Children of Mary chapel outside of Newark. The Children of Mary is a religious order of women dedicated to prayer, spreading love for the Eucharist and assisting with the poor and dying.

“We sat through Mass early on, not really having an understanding,” Joe said. “We obviously don’t speak Latin, but once we got a missal it just opened up a whole new world to us and made us appreciate the Latin Mass even more, just the richness and fullness of it.”

“Even if you come in with little understanding of it, there’s no language barrier that can hinder your learning the splendor of it all. You learn it gradually.”

“I was reassured talking to a priest friend who encouraged us to check out St. Leo’s. He said it took him years into his priesthood to learn how to say the Latin Mass, and that was reassuring because I thought I was supposed to pick up the missal, open it and be ready right out of the gate to run with it.

“It hasn’t been overwhelming, and the more we know, the more we love it and the more attached we feel.”

St. Leo opened as a diocesan parish in 1903 and continued to grow through the middle part of the past century before migrations away from the area eroded membership to the point that the diocese closed the church in 1999.

The St. Leo Preservation Society took over maintenance and upkeep of the church, which hosted occasional weddings and funerals and served as a home for the Korean Catholic Community before the institute arrived last year.

The preservation society’s care of the building proved beneficial when the institute moved in. The church’s brick exterior had been recently tuck-pointed, stained glass windows and
painting had been maintained, and the organ had been refurbished.

One missing piece inside the church was the communion rail, which had been removed in the 1970s when the Novus Ordo, or new Mass, became the principal form of celebrating the sacred liturgy. Last week, work began on restoration of the rail using marble pieces from the old rail that had been in storage in the basement or used to make a free-standing altar.

The original marble altar gates, however, could not be found, and so work is underway to build new bronze gates using a similar design. Parishioners have donated funds for the rail and gates and also for new liturgical vestments being made specifically for the oratory.

“Having the communion rail will really give a sense of completeness to the church,” Canon Silvey said. “And there are still other things we’d like to do. We would like to add side altars again. As far as we know, the old side altars no longer exist, and so we would be in a position of trying to find old altars somewhere.”

The rectory needed more attention than the church. It had fallen mostly into disuse after the parish closed, and so for the past few months renovation has proceeded that includes updating plumbing and electrical systems, renovating bathrooms and adding dry-walls in spots.

Parishioners have helped with some of the labor, as has Abbe Lance Gerbig, who is an oblate in the order and the sacristan at the oratory.

Canon Silvey hopes the entire rectory will eventually be updated to provide rooms for visiting priests and possibly to accommodate the assignment of a second priest from the order to the oratory.

The growth and development of the oratory’s membership in just a year has created another problem. Indoor meeting space is almost nonexistent after the school and parish hall were torn down in 2001, which means that when events can’t be held in the church or outside, the oratory has rented nearby St. Ladislas Church’s parish hall.

One such event was a presentation in September on the Society of the Sacred Heart, the equivalent of a lay third order of the institute whose members follow the order’s rule of spirituality. About 30 people attended on Sept. 29.

Eventually, the vacant space behind the church where the school once stood could be the site of a new social hall, but nothing is imminent, Canon Silvey said.

Several groups have continued at St. Leo that were established at Columbus Holy Family Church when the Latin Mass community was based there. Those include the Holy Name Society for men and the Confraternity of Christian Mothers for women. Catechism classes are offered for young people preparing to receive the sacrament of confirmation.

A polyphonic choir and a Gregorian schola accompany the Masses at the oratory. Canon Silvey said he is looking for a permanent organist and music director.

“Many people coming to Mass here have been in the Latin Mass community for years,” Canon Silvey said. “And I also know families and individuals have discovered the Traditional Mass since we started here.”

The surrounding neighborhood also appears to be receptive to the reopening of the church, but Canon Silvey said the impact has been somewhat difficult to gauge because of restricted interaction due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

“Our presence has been very much appreciated,” he said. “There’s been a lot of gratitude among Catholics in the area that the Church is fully operational now. It’s obviously a good thing for the neighborhood because it’s an iconic church.”

As for the future, Bishop Brennan has affirmed the diocese’s commitment to the continuation of the Traditional Latin Mass and the institution’s presence.

In July, Pope Francis issued a controversial order, Traditionis custodes, that restricts use of the Latin Mass. Some diocesan bishops have since limited the Latin Mass, and others have made no changes.

Among the local Latin Mass community, there doesn’t appear to be imminent concern about the pope’s document.

“I don’t foresee myself ever going back from the Traditional Latin Mass,” Joe said. “They’ve got me hooked. This is the Mass of the Ages. I think we’ll be OK.”

“It’s so beautiful,” Liz said. “We have the joyful hope that devotion to the Mass of the Ages is going to spread.”
Museum reopens with new name, location

By Tim Puet
For The Catholic Times

For the newly renamed Museum of Catholic Art and History, less is more.

The former Jubilee Museum and Catholic Cultural Center has been relocated to the first floor of The Catholic Foundation’s building at 257 E. Broad St., Columbus, from the former Holy Family School in the Franklin area across the Scioto River from the city’s downtown.

A blessing ceremony with Bishop Robert Brennan at the new location at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 9, will mark the first time the museum has been open since August 2019. Its directors at that time decided to leave its original site and rename the museum to allow for restructuring, repairs and an inventory of the collection.

It was about to reopen in mid-March of last year when the COVID-19 pandemic hit, keeping the museum shut and also closing the soup kitchen that had operated for decades in the former school’s basement. The kitchen did not reopen, but its services are continuing through the distribution of to-go meals every weekday at Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St.

The museum’s array of items covering 2,000 years of Catholic history now will be displayed in a 4,000-square-foot space. It had 22,000 square feet available in its original location, but museum director Shawn Kenney said the smaller area will provide the proper amount of space for the facility to display its most treasured items.

“We had little storage space in the school building, so we had to display just about everything we had, making things look overcrowded,” he said. “We have more storage room here in the foundation’s building.

“Many items from the original museum were distributed through a ‘garage sale’ event that allowed churches, convents and homes to obtain much of what the museum had collected over 20-plus years.

“We had to dispose of a lot of things, but all the collecting was not done in vain because the items we had were able to be recycled for a second time to places where they could be of use.

“Now we can display our most significant artifacts in a way they can be better-appreciated, with more space around them and more details about them, as they would be shown at secular sites such as the Columbus Museum of Art.

“We also can rotate items on display so that every time someone visits, the experience will be a little different. In addition, the new museum site will have better lighting and more security.”

Kenney said discussion among the museum’s directors about moving the site began about 10 years ago because of the limitations imposed by its location at the school, which was built in 1912, had no access for the disabled and was not climate-controlled.

Fundraising to support a move took place, and several sites were considered, most notably the former Graham Ford building on West Broad Street across from Holy Family Church, but no decision was made.

Steve Hagerdorn, chief operating officer of The Catholic Foundation, said Loren Brown and Scott Hartman, the foundation’s president and vice president, respectively, proposed to the foundation board that the museum move to space the foundation was using for storage, which the board had hoped would be used by a Catholic organization.

Hagerdorn said the board agreed because it found “great synchronicity between the missions of The Catholic Foundation and the museum. The foundation can find people who will be interested in donating money and items to the museum, and museum patrons might be interested in donating to the foundation.”

Kenney said items displayed will be divided by purpose in much the same way they were at the former school. “The difference will be that they will be in separate areas of one large and two smaller spaces, rather than having each of the collection’s main divisions featured in a separate room,” he said.

The new museum will include display areas for relics, vestments and items related to religious sisters and to Catholic schools and churches. Some of the museum’s large collection of Nativity scenes will be on display during the Advent and Christmas seasons.

Kenney said one of the most popular temporary exhibits at the museum’s former site was a model of the Vatican made by Father Bob Simon, a Pennsylvania priest, from about 500,000 LEGO blocks. The new museum will feature LEGO displays, along with a LEGO building competition. In addition, art classes for young people are being planned.

The museum’s former space included room to display several altars and organs. All except for one small pipe organ the museum retained have found new homes.

One of the largest works kept by the museum is a life-size wooden crucifix believed to be from the 18th century. The crucifix is complete except for the top of Jesus’ head, where the wood shows through because the painted head became detached.

Near the cross is a painting stolen by the Nazis from a castle in Salzburg, Austria during World War II. A label with the Nazi eagle and swastika remains on the back of the work.

Other significant items include a chalice with a heart-shaped amethyst that belonged to Mary Queen of Scots. The amethyst dates to the 16th century, while the chalice is of earlier origin.

Also displayed is a carved statue of an unidentified saint that is believed to have been made by one of Michelangelo’s apprentices. The museum also has relics of the True Cross, the crown of thorns and the bones of all 12 Apostles, as well as relics of about 300 saints. Its oldest book of Scripture is a 1582 Rheims New Testament, the first part of the Bible ever printed in English.

Displayed alongside many items will be QR codes allowing viewers to use their cellphones or other electronic devices to learn more about a particular artifact. Kenney hopes at least some of the codes will be functional for the museum’s opening.

He said downsizing of the museum will allow work to begin on restoration of some of its artworks. “We never had the time or the money to do this before,” he said. “Now that there is a chance to do it, we’ll be able to restore many items to their original look.”

The building itself, though of more recent vintage than most items it displays, is the site of a state historical marker because Columbus entrepreneur Dave Thomas opened his first Wendy’s restaurant at the site in 1969. The restaurant closed in 2007, with The Catholic Foundation taking over the space.

The building was opened in the 1940s as a new car showroom by Bill Kay Oldsmobile, then became a steakhouse owned by former New York Yankee star Tommy Henrich and was returned to its original use by Buick dealer Len Immke before Thomas converted the space.

The future of the original museum site is uncertain. It was used as a school from 1912 to 1973. Most of the building served Holy Family Church as a storage area or was unused from then until 1998, when the museum was opened.

See MUSEUM, Page 11
A reliquary in the form of a bust of St. Augustine carved out of wood contains a first-class relic. This style of reliquary was often seen in larger churches in England, France and Germany in the 17th to 19th centuries and is estimated to be about 300 years old. CT photo by Ken Snow

LOCAL NEWS, continued from Page 2

be held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 17 at the high school.
For reservations and information, call Nancy Bourne at the school at 740-344-3594, ext. x231.

Past Salesian Center director celebrates anniversaries
Father Mark Hyde was one of 15 jubilarians celebrating profession and ordination anniversaries who were honored Saturday, Oct. 29 by the Salesians province of St. Philip the Apostle at the Marian Shrine in Stony Point, New York.
Father Hyde, who made his first profession 50 years ago and was ordained 40 years ago, directed the Salesian Boys and Girls Club in downtown Columbus from 1988 to 1993.
He recently served as the director of Salesian Missions in New Rochelle, New York from 2009 to 2020, and is currently the pastor of St. John Bosco and St. Rosalie Parishes in Harvey, Louisiana.
The Salesian jubilarians included nine confreres observing the 40th, 50th, 60th, 65th, and 70th anniversaries of their first religious profession; four observing the 40th, 50th, and 65th anniversaries of priestly ordination; and Father Hyde and one other member of the order observing both priestly and religious anniversaries.

Catholic Singles on Fire for Christ plans fall hike
Join Catholic singles (age 40 and over, never married, annulled, widowed) for a fall hike on Sunday, Nov. 7, in Mohican State Park near Loudonville, Ohio.
The Catholic Singles on Fire for Christ group will hike the Lyons Falls and Pleasant Hill Trails, which covers approximately three miles.
Those who are interested in going are asked to meet at 1 p.m. in the parking lot nearest Brio restaurant (look for an orange sign) at Polaris Fashion Place mall and carpool to the park. The drive is approximately one hour.
For more information, contact David at ig88@aol.com.

Dominican Sister of Peace honored for ministry
The Spirituality Network of Columbus presented Dominican Sister of Peace Nadine Buchanan, OP, with its Living Faith Award for her ministry with trafficked women and the homeless. Dominican Associates Christine Butler and Karen Martens also received Living Faith awards, and Associate Sharon Reed was honored with the Hope for Today Award.
The network is an interfaith organization that connects people with resources for spiritual growth and depth regardless of faith tradition, through education and training, spiritual direction for individuals and groups, and community programs and events.

Dominican sisters host leadership meeting
The Dominican Sisters of Peace hosted the annual leadership meeting of the Dominican Sisters Conference from Oct. 13 to 15 at the Martin de Porres Center in Columbus. The conference includes Dominican congregations from throughout the nation.
The meeting took place in a hybrid fashion, with elected leaders of congregations attending in person and more than 95 sisters from around the world joining via video conference.
Participants from the Dominican Sisters of Peace included Sister Anne Lythgoe, OP; Sister Mai Dung Nguyen, OP; Sister Pat Trowill, OP; Sr. Gene Poore, OP; Sister Gemma Doll, OP and Sister Therese Leckert, OP.

museum, continued from Page 10

The museum’s original name honored the Jubilee Year proclaimed by Pope St. John Paul II for the Church in 2000. It began with a 1998 Holy Family Church exhibit on the history of the Diocese of Columbus for the Jubilee Year and continued growing, ultimately being recognized by the Vatican as the largest collection of diversified Catholic artwork in the United States.
Before its closing, the museum was recognized by the Tripadvisor travel website as its top-rated Columbus attraction.
Kenney began volunteering at the museum in the mid-2000s while he was a Reynoldsburg High School student. He graduated from Ohio Dominican University in 2009 with majors in art and business and a minor in music.
He continued volunteering for five years while he taught music and was assistant band director at Reynoldsburg High, then became the museum’s assistant director in 2014 and director in 2016. He also has been organist at Holy Family Church for 12 years.
He said that 2019 was the former museum’s busiest year, with more than 10,000 visitors, including a record number of tour groups, mainly from Catholic schools. The new site is being included on the Columbus Christmas tours conducted by Jeff Lafever, former director of the Columbus Historical Society.
Kenney said guest surveys showed that 65 percent of the museum’s 2019 visitors were non-Catholics. He credited that to the Tripadvisor ratings. Its new location is across from St. Joseph Cathedral and a short walk from the Ohio Statehouse, and he hopes to work with schools and tour groups on packages that would combine visits to two or all three of those sites.
The museum will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays, 1 to 4 p.m. Sundays and closed Mondays, with special tours by appointment. Admission will be $10 for adults and $5 for children.
Information about the museum soon will be available at www.themuseumofcatholicartandhistory.org. For more details, contact Kenney at shawn@catholicmuseum.org or call (614) 315-1472.
Young Adult Conference focuses on empowerment

By Catherine Suprenant

On Saturday, Oct. 23, about 80 Catholic young adults gathered at Sunbury St. John Neumann Church for the third Columbus Catholic Young Adult Conference.

The conference seeks to empower young adults to transform their communities through their identity in Christ. While the mission and structure of each event has remained the same, a unique vision is crafted for each conference.

“We select a different theme and Bible verse for each one and tailor the keynotes and breakout sessions in alignment with that theme,” said Maria Tarbell, part-time professor and adviser of the Catholic Student Ministry at Otterbein University and a founder of the conference.

“We spend time in committee meetings sharing and debating various themes and Bible verses to come up with a compelling one we believe will be meaningful.”

This year’s conference focused on the theme “No Fear in Love,” Father Dan Dury, pastor of St. John Neumann, said the theme was fitting, echoing the common refrain of Pope John Paul II, “Be not afraid,” which “urges us to abandon our own wills and our ego to God’s will and divine life. When we do so, we begin to live a life of true love and selflessness. We begin then to experience the strength and power of the Holy Spirit,” Father Dury said.

Brenna Toth, a member of the conference planning committee, said the event is an important reminder to young adults that they are not alone.

“I remember going to the first conference and being completely shocked by how many young adults were as passionate about their faith,” Toth said. “It was really uplifting for me to see that there truly was (and is) a community of Catholics around me who are my own age.”

She also noted the value of the exhibitors for the young adults present. “The conference allows us to see paths that are possible that we might not otherwise see (missions, consecrated life, full-time ministry, etc.) and provides us with people in those fields to contact for more information.”

Conference attendee Denis Venezia-no said his favorite part of the day was “getting to meet and talk with other fellow young adult Catholics and learn about their lives and their journeys in the Catholic faith, and to hear how much they are longing for community.”

The conference’s opening speaker was Heather Khym, a host of the Abiding Together podcast. She spoke on “The Call” that brings listeners out of darkness and into the light of God’s love.

Scripture sheds this light on people’s lives, helping them to reject the lies that keep them in darkness, she said. She asked attendees to think about what most desire from God, such as hope, peace, identity or joy, and to Google for Scripture passages on that theme. She recommended reading those Scripture passages and asking God, “What do you have to say about this topic?”

The second keynote, on evangelization, was given by Bryan O’Donnell of Columbus’ Urban Encounter Ministries. Sharing his own experience, he said that attendees can rely on God and take risks for Him in bringing the Gospel to others. He emphasized the importance of walking with someone in friendship – even if it’s difficult – so as to love like Jesus.

Conference participants also selected breakout sessions on topics such as the Good Shepherd (Prayer), How to Be a Faithful Catholic Around Others with Opposing Views, Vocation, How to Suffer Well and the Mass.

The conference included Eucharistic Adoration led by Bishop Robert Brennan and closed with Mass celebrated by Father Dury.

Conference planners hope that young adults take the grace of their experience and the love of Christ back to their communities. Khym voiced this in her challenge to attendees: “St. Pier Giorgio Frassati was only 24 when he died and had not yet entered any vocation. However, he gave of himself in love. Your primary vocation is to love, everything else is secondary.”

Next year’s conference, set for Oct. 15, 2022, will focus on “Presence.” The selected Scripture verse is Galatians 2:20: “Yet I live, no longer, I but Christ lives in me; insofar as I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God who has loved me and given himself up for me.”

For more information, visit the conference website, www.ccyac.org.

Catherine Suprenant is the marriage preparation coordinator in the diocesan Marriage and Family Life Office.
The three pillars of Catholic social teaching are as applicable today as they were when they were developed during the Industrial Revolution, said the speaker at the 20th annual Borromeo Lecture.

The principles of human dignity, solidarity and subsidiarity “help you and me be attentive to the needs of individual persons, and not just humanity in general. They are the means by which we seek the common good, and they apply not only in a digital age but every age,” Msgr. Thomas Powers said Thursday, Oct. 28 at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School.

Msgr. Powers, vicar general of the Diocese of Bridgeport, Connecticut, spoke on the topic “Preaching By the Way We Live: Living Out the Principles of Catholic Social Teaching.”

“The first principle, that of human dignity, “comes from the fact that we are created, loved and redeemed by God,” he said. “It does not come from a self-esteem seminar or from an executive order.

“One of the most profound ways we can respect a person’s dignity is to show them mercy. In fact, showing mercy to another is to recognize one’s dignity,” he said.

“While mercy can be defined broadly as the ready willingness to be kind and helpful to anyone – especially the most vulnerable among us – mercy is most clearly demonstrated when I offer pardon and reconciliation to someone who has offended me.

“When I am merciful in that way, I act like God. I offer the other person the freedom to begin anew and start over again, just like God does with me.”

Msgr. Powers said studies show the early Christians lived much longer than their neighbors. He believes much of this has to do with “their commitment to what was an unusual virtue in the ancient age: the virtue of mercy.” They practiced what today are known as the seven spiritual and seven corporal works of mercy, and he said everyone can continue performing at least some of those works today.

He said that although he does not follow social media, “I do sense, and occasionally read, that the world of social media can be anything but merciful. Sometimes I feel like everyone one of us is one YouTube video away from complete public ruin. We live in what is being called a cancel culture, but we need to remember that Jesus never cancels anyone.”

Speaking of the principle of solidarity, Msgr. Powers said it “recognizes that everyone’s existence is deeply tied to that of others, and it highlights the intrinsic social nature of the human person and the shared path we are all on toward the common good.”

“The world is certainly a divided place today – unfortunately, our country as well,” Msgr. Powers said. “That should bother us, especially since the word ‘division’ comes from the Greek word ‘diabolos,’ which means to divide or to tear about.” From this, in turn, comes the English word “devil.”

“That is what the devil does. He divides and wants to tear us apart,” Msgr. Powers said.

“It is hard to find public discourse today that is civil and open to another’s point of view, and the anonymity and distance that social media provides may even exacerbate that,” he told the St. Charles student body and adult guests.

“And the vice that seems to thrive in social media, that sows division and that is the opposite of solidarity, is the capital sin of envy. Envy is a sadness or discontent at the excellence, the good fortune or the success of another person.

“We’ve all felt it: (the feeling that) I consider myself somehow deprived, or I think there is an injustice when someone else has success and I do not. Therefore, envy is always a sin against charity, and it is the only capital sin that brings no bodily or emotional pleasure.

…“If there is a sin of our times and a sin that we must beg God from which to free us, it is, in my mind, the sin of envy.”

Msgr. Powers defined subsidiarity as the principle “that human affairs are best handled locally, by the smallest group or community, and that larger entities should not interfere but should only provide support when help is needed; that is, those in higher authority must respect the rights of those in lower authority.”

He said examples of this are that parents have the first responsibility to educate their children, and that individual families know and decide what is best for their own homes. Another example has been observed during the COVID pandemic “when, except for things like vaccines that local governments cannot produce without the resources of the federal government, most COVID decisions seemed to be handled best when made locally or by individual states.”

“But subsidiarity goes both ways,” Msgr. Powers said. “Each one of us has a personal responsibility to do what he or she can for the common good and not shirk our own duty.

“We should not push off on some higher authority the work of charity that we can actually accomplish ourselves. … If we want to put subsidiarity into practice where we live, where we work and where we study, a good place to start may be to take responsibility for those around us, one person at a time.”

The Borromeo Lecture series, named for the school’s patron, St. Charles Borromeo, provides a forum that annually brings to St. Charles a well-known speaker on the topics of morals and ethics in society, business and government.

It was established and is supported by Robert J. Dilenschneider, a 1961 St. Charles graduate who is a nationally known public relations professional, lives in New York City and returns to his alma mater each year for the lecture. It has been given every year since 2001, except for last year, when it was canceled because of the pandemic.

Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School has broken ground for a new convocation center and a beautification project for its Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto. The groundbreaking took place after a Mass celebrated by Bishop Robert Brennan on Thursday, Nov. 4, the feast of the school’s patron, St. Charles Borromeo.

The $11.5 million project is part of the school’s ongoing expansion plans being financed through its Vision for the Future; Building Leaders for the Next 100 Years campaign.

The convocation center will be named in honor of Frank E. Murphy, who graduated from the school in 1954. When completed in the spring of 2022, it will include a 1,200- to 1,400-seat arena with flexible space for athletic events, public presentations, educational programs and cultural activities.

The center will have an octagonal shape, and its vaulted ceiling will feature a superstructure of interwoven wooden trusses. The building will include the Paul E. Heller Family Hall of Champions, the Riat Family Court and the Anne Park Foyer.

The beautification project will enhance the grotto by adding a circular plaza, waterfalls on each side of the grotto, the Mackesy Family Area of Reflection, sitting walls and paved pathways.

The grotto has been part of St. Charles for 90 years after being built by members of the school’s 1930 and 1931 graduating classes. The institution was founded in 1923 by Bishop James Hartley and will be celebrating its centennial in two years.
**Do others see Jesus in you?**

**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.*

1 Kings 17:10–16  
Psalm 146:7, 8–9, 9–10  
Hebrews 9:24–28  
Mark 12:38–44

God invites us to go “all in.” The widow in Zarephath fixes Elijah a meal with her last bit of food, and at the prophet’s word, she has enough for herself and her son, and for Elijah, as long as the drought lasts.

Another poor widow puts a couple of coins, out of her want, into the temple treasury as Jesus is watching, and she earns high praise from the Lord. He calls His disciples to see her and charges them to attend to her example.

Whatever our role in the life of the Church, whether we are lay, religious or clergy, single or married, God wants all of us. We are invited to follow the example of the widows of today’s Scriptures and to go “all in” with God and one another.

Husbands and wives are meant to show us what that means in their witness of marriage. The world sees the Catholic and Christian community divided, often with bitterness and animosity. The issues that should unite us disappear from the world’s view.

What is the world meant to see in us? The answer is simple: Jesus. We are meant to reveal Jesus to the world. Through His sacrifice on the cross, Jesus gave His all in our flesh back to the Father. This opened a door for us. Jesus pours His own Spirit into our hearts so that we may reveal Him by our way of life. Jesus wants His disciples to be “all in,” so that the world may see in them the offer of salvation.

The world needs to see us as united in heart and mind, living our faith completely and truly, without compromise. True compassion for the world means becoming true to the Word, living for God and for others, giving our all.

We long for true communion, to know that we are known and loved in our uniqueness. Our call as members of the Church is to give all we have to help others come to know this simple truth.

Faith is not just a private matter. It is the means by which God has chosen to save the world—a call to give all we have and are to accomplish this purpose. What is God asking from you? What is your response?

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

---

**THE WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>11/8–11/13</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TUESDAY</td>
<td>Ezekiel 47:1-2, 8-9, 12</td>
<td>Psalm 46:2-5, 6-8, 9</td>
<td>1 Corinthians 9:9b-11, 16-17 John 21:3-22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION**

**MASS SCHEDULE: WEEKS OF NOV. 7 AND NOV. 14, 2021**

**SUNDAY MASS**
10:30 a.m. Mass from Columbus  

10:30 a.m. Mass from Portsmouth St. Mary Church on St. Gabriel Radio (FM 88.3), Portsmouth.

Mass with the Passionist Fathers at 7:30 a.m. on WWHO-TV (the CW), Channel 53, Columbus and 10:30 a.m. on WHIZ-TV, Channel 18, Zanesville.

Mass from St. Francis de Sales Seminary, Milwaukee, at 10 a.m. on WWHO-TV. Check local cable system for cable channel listing.

Mass from Our Lady of the Angels Monastery, Birmingham, Ala., at 8 a.m. on EWTN (Spectrum Channel 385, Insight Channel 382, or WOW Channel 376). (Encores at noon, 3 p.m., and midnight). Mass from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee at 6:30 a.m. on ION TV (AT&T U-verse Channel 195, Dish Network Channel 250, or DirecTV Channel 305).

Mass from Massillon St. Mary Church at 10:30 a.m. on WLBN radio (AM 1060, FM 94.5 and 89.5), Canton, heard in Tuscarawas, Holmes, and Coshocton counties.

**DAILY MASS**
8 a.m., Our Lady of the Angels Monastery in Birmingham, Ala. (Encores at noon, 3 p.m., and midnight). See EWTN above; and on EWTN Channel 113, Ada, Logan, Milburn, Murray City, Washington C.H., Channel 125, Marion, Newark, Newcomerstown and New Philadelphia; Channel 207, Zanesville; 8 p.m., St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com.

12:05 p.m. weekdays, 8 a.m. Saturdays, Mass from Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com and diocesan website, www.columbuscatholic.org. (Saturdays on radio only).

Voices of Masses are available at any time on the Internet at these and many other parish websites: Maturingly St. Matthew (www.stmatt.org); Columbus St. Patrick (www.catholiccolumbustn.org); Delaware St. Mary (www.delawarerestminster.org); Sunbury St. John Neumann (www.santjohnsunbury.org); and Columbus Immaculate Conception (www.cicolo.org). Check your parish website for additional information.

We pray Weeks IV and I, Seasonal Proper, Liturgy of the Hours.

---

**Put God first, as the world is watching you**

Daniel 12:1–3  
Psalm 16:5, 8, 9–10, 11  
Hebrews 10:11–14, 18  
Mark 13:24–32

Last Sunday, we observed Jesus as the “People-Watcher,” sitting in a public place, attending to the actions of human beings and discerning motives by their manner of responding to faith. This Sunday, we are invited to attend closely to nature to discover God’s ways among His creatures:

>“Learn a lesson from the fig tree.”

Figs represent a metaphor that is often used in Scripture about how God relates to His people. Figs are the result of cultivation and offer a ready source of nourishment when in season. Recall the time Jesus cursed a fig tree that did not have fruit as He was entering Jerusalem. (Mark 11:12ff)

God’s plan for His people is to thrive and bear fruit. The fig tree teaches a lesson about God’s intention for creation. When we watch the signs that accompany our experience of faith bearing fruit, we will see the kingdom.

No one knows just when this world will come to its close. The world had a beginning, and it will have an end, but we do not know when. “But of that day or hour, no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.” We must be ready at all times, but we know neither the day nor the hour.

What we do know is that the resurrection of Jesus Christ is the beginning of the end of the world. All of us are destined to rise again—some to the glory for which God has destined us, others to a fate of their own choosing. When we die, we will seal our fate. Our last word is either “yes” to God or “yes” to our own will. We are meant to practice our faith to prepare to give
PUT GOD FIRST, continued from Page 14

God our “yes.”

Here is the challenge. There are truths that we need to embrace and to put into our awareness to be open to the kingdom. We must organize our lives and all that we do and all that we are in accord with these truths.

God must be first in our lives. As Catholics, attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation, either at the vigil or on the day itself, is our way of acknowledging that God is first. “Keep holy the Sabbath” is the Third Commandment. Sunday is our Sabbath. We keep it holy by participating in Mass. Unless we are dispensed due to circumstances, such as illness or the recent challenges due to COVID-19, this commandment remains in force.

This is a serious responsibility for the whole of our earthly lives, as long as it is humanly possible. It is not “optional.” It is how we practice our faith and express our awareness that God has first place for us.

The world is watching us in order to observe a witness to the truth. We are meant to be a sign to our times that Jesus will return to offer salvation. Our children especially are watching to see the truth of our own commitment. As long as we say one thing and do another, our children will not have any reason to believe in the Gospel or the Church or the truth we claim to profess.

We live in truly apocalyptic times. We must see the signs of the times. The Gospel tells us the outcome of all human history. We can see lived out before us the reality of Scriptural prophecy: “This is a time of unsurpassed distress among the nations.”

Our call is to put our trust in God. We must find a way to open our hearts to the grace and mercy of God so that it may transform the world. We are invited to welcome when the world rejects and divides. We are called to hear the Word of God, beckoning us to discover His ways among us. We are made sharers of God’s own life in the Eucharist, the food of eternal life. We are sent forth to share with the world the truth of God’s presence in our history.

Let us seek the path to life and fullness of joy forever in God’s presence.
Sister Joan Ford, OP

Funeral Mass for Sister Joan Ford, OP, 91, who died Friday, Oct. 15 at the Mohun Health Care Center, was celebrated at the chapel of the Motherhouse of the Dominican Sisters of Peace. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

She was born on Sept. 29, 1930 in Columbus to Glen Ford and Dorothy (Carr) Woolery. She was a graduate of Columbus Holy Name School and Columbus St. Mary of the Springs Academy and received a Bachelor of Science degree in education in 1958 from St. Mary of the Springs College (now Ohio Dominican University) and a Master of Science degree in reading education in 1975 from Marygrove College in Detroit.

She entered the congregation of the Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs (now the Dominican Sisters of Peace) in 1951 and made her profession of vows on July 9, 1953, taking the name Sister Trinitas.

In Columbus, she was a teacher at St. Francis of Assisi (1956-1957), St. James the Less (1966-1969), Pope John XXIII (1971-1976) and Holy Spirit (1976-1978) schools. She worked with animals at the Columbus Humane Society in 1992 and 1993, ministered to the elderly at Nazareth Towers from 1996 to 1998, was a tutor at the Dominican Learning Center from 1998 to 2005 and was at the Mohun center from 2005 until her death. She also taught at schools in New Mexico, Texas, Pennsylvania, New York and Michigan and at the Colegio La Piedad in Santurce, Puerto Rico.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Dave. Survivors include a sister, Marie Wade, a niece and nephews.

Sister Adrienne Colson, OP

Funeral Mass for Sister Adrienne Colson, OP, 96, who died Tuesday, Oct. 12 at the Mohun Health Care Center, was celebrated at the chapel of the Motherhouse of the Dominican Sisters of Peace. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

She was born on April 28, 1927 in Columbus to the late Desire and Grace (Singer) Colson. She was a graduate of Columbus St. Leo School and Columbus St. Mary High School and received a Bachelor of Science degree in 1958 from St. Mary of the Springs College (now Ohio Dominican University), a Master of Education degree in religious studies in 1978 from Marygrove College in Detroit and a Master of Arts degree in pastoral counseling in 1989 from the Athenaeum of Ohio in Cincinnati.

She entered the congregation of the Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs (now the Dominican Sisters of Peace) in 1953 and made her profession of vows on July 9, 1955, taking the name Sister Donald.

In the Diocese of Columbus, she was a teacher at Columbus St. Thomas the Apostle (1957-1958), Columbus St. Philip (1970-1974) and Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas (1974-1978) schools, religious education coordinator at Newark St. Francis de Sales School (1978-1979) and in supportive services at the Mohun center (1980-1981).

She also taught at schools in the Diocese of Steubenville and in New Mexico and Pennsylvania and was religious education director for the Diocese of St. Petersburg, Florida. She was in pastoral ministry at St. George Hospital in Cincinnati from 1981 until her retirement in 2003, when she retired at the Motherhouse. She became a resident of the Mohun center in 2015.

Survivors include a sister, Marie Wade, a niece and nephews.
Charitable ministry aids five southeast Ohio counties

By Tim Puet
For The Catholic Times

The We Are Friends ministry of Logan St. John Church has expanded beyond the boundaries of Hocking County and is providing people in five southeast Ohio counties with furniture, bedding and other housing items, enabling them to live on their own or to improve conditions for their families.

Deacon Don Robers, coordinator for the ministry, said that in the three years since it was founded, it has served more than 200 individuals and families in Logan, Nelsonville, Athens and Lancaster and in Hocking, Athens, Perry, Morgan and Fairfield counties.

“Our growth hasn’t come that much from the COVID-19 pandemic but more from people learning about us and asking for our help,” Deacon Robers said. “People are still homeless and still need things, and that’s true regardless of something unexpected like COVID.”

He said donations have declined only slightly in the 1 ½ years since the pandemic began. A fundraising letter he sent in late September brought in about $1,000, “and we’ve spent about $350 already,” he said in mid-October.

“We serve everyone who asks us for help in some way. We may not have what people need when they make a request, but we’ll find it for them and let them know when it arrives,” Deacon Robers said.

He said the greatest need among the people served by We Are Friends is for mattresses and bedding. “Some of the saddest stories we hear are from families with two or three children who have to sleep on the floor because they have no beds. We’ve probably heard three or four of those stories over the years. It’s the most satisfying thing to be able to have those kids sleeping in the kind of bed they need,” he said.

We Are Friends obtains mattresses, box springs and bed frames through online auctions and through an Athens furniture store that makes the items available at a discount. “Like so many other things, mattresses have gone up in price because of the supply chain problems related to COVID,” Deacon Robers said. “It’s costing $50 to $75 more per mattress now.”

We Are Friends is based in the former St. John Church carport, which the ministry transformed into a garage. The parish’s St. Vincent de Paul Society operates from the former parish convent. The two groups work together to supply furniture, food and clothing to people and at Christmastime have provided toys for families who otherwise could not afford them.

The ministry resulted from a meeting Deacon Robers conducted with professional organizations, law enforcement and the courts to discuss ways of helping people trying to recover from drug addiction. He said it has a core membership of about 15 people, including Hocking County Municipal Judge Fred Moses and Common Pleas Judge John Wallace.

Both judges have drug courts and have sent several people to the organization for help with immediate needs and for referrals to agencies, including the Hocking Hills Inspire Shelter, Hopewell Health Centers, Integrated Services for Behavioral Health and Goodwill Industries.

Those agencies also refer people to We Are Friends. “We get families, people from the area’s homeless shelter and a lot from the local senior citizens high-rise,” Deacon Robers said. “Many times, we’ve helped people, and they’ve come back in tears, saying, ‘You are awesome.’

“We’ve had some great success stories with people getting out of the hold drugs have on them and into their own homes. My son Doug has homes he rents to them at a reasonable rate, and the drug courts have apartments they provide which are furnished by We Are Friends. It’s really rewarding to see what a difference this makes to people.”

Besides providing furniture and other items, the ministry gives several books to people suffering from addiction and to their families. These include pocket-size prayer books donated by Judge Wallace and larger books related to overcoming addiction.

Volunteers will pick up furniture and household items people wish to donate to We Are Friends. Clothing and large items are given to the Logan Community Thrift Store, which will sell them and give 70 percent of the sale price back to We Are Friends.

Last year, the ministry had expenses of a little more than $10,000, with $7,600 of that amount going toward beds and mattresses. We Are Friends received a $4,000 grant, to be used only for bedding items, from South Central Power Company and $2,800 from The Catholic Foundation. It has applied for grants for 2022 from the same sources. The rest came from individual donors.

We Are Friends has set up a donor advised fund with the foundation that began with $5,000 and has grown to more than $18,000. “This fund goes on forever,” Deacon Robers said. “It will provide for long-term financing to help the poor and those in need. By donating to this fund, your gift will keep on giving.” Because the grants cover only part of the ministry’s expenses, it also is in need of funds for its everyday work.

To donate to the ministry for short-term needs, write a check payable to We Are Friends and send it to St. John Church, 351 N. Market St., Logan OH 43138.

To donate through the foundation, write a check to The Catholic Foundation, We Are Friends, put Fund ID# 325K1 in the memo section and mail it to The Catholic Foundation, 257 E. Broad St., Columbus OH 43215. Online gifts may be made by going to https://catholic-foundation.org/give-now/?fund_name=The+We+Are+Friends+Donor+Advised+Fund, then clicking on “Give to this Fund.”

Paralyzed World War II veterans paved the way for wheelchair sports

By Toni Rossi
Director of Communications,
The Christophers

Veterans’ Day is Thursday, Nov. 11, the feast of St. Martin of Tours. It is a day to honor military veterans and reflect on the sacrifices so many have made to protect freedom around the world.

It’s not uncommon today to see people in wheelchairs living happy, fulfilling lives, albeit with numerous challenges. But that was not the case after World War I, when many soldiers incurred injuries that left them paralyzed. In fact, becoming paralyzed at the time was largely considered to be a death sentence due more to infections that would set in than the actual injury. Those who survived were faced with a society biased against them. That began to change in the World War II era because of innovative doctors who created medical advances that gave injured veterans a second chance at life. Author David Davis tells this story in his Christopher Award-winning book, “Wheels of Courage: How Paralyzed Veterans from World War II Invented Wheelchair Sports, Fought for Disability Rights, and Inspired a Nation.”

Davis noted that paralyzed soldiers ended up in VA hospitals in the United States, where they were left asking questions such as “Can I get married? Can I hold down a job?” With the creation of penicillin to fight infections, doctors and physical therapists realized these men were likely to live normal lives and needed to be prepared for the future. Davis said, “What [the doctors] did was ... holistic care of the mind and the body. There were physical exercises to strengthen, particularly, the upper body, arms, shoulders, neck, core muscles ... It was very much a psychological aspect [too] in the sense, here are these young men ... and they’ve lost the use of their legs. That was a huge psychological blow. Recreation and sports, I think, was a crucial element for many of the men ... This is part of energizing someone to go, ‘I’m not going to sit in bed for the rest of my life. I’m going to get up and make something of my life.’”

Thankfully, wheelchairs that were lighter and easier to maneuver than the old-fashioned ones were created, giving paralyzed veterans greater mobility. And Davis points out an important point about the phrase “confined” to a wheelchair. He said, “Early on, people would tell me, that is a misnomer. The wheelchair is liberating, it’s freedom. These veterans [could say], ‘I

How does a Donor Advised Fund work?

The Best way Catholics manage their charitable giving!

www.catholic-foundation.org/daf
To learn more, contact Scott Hartman
614-443-8893 ext. 104
shartman@catholic-foundation.org

Key Benefits
- $0 minimum to open
- Same-year tax benefits
- Grow your donation, tax free
- Support the charities you love over time
- Make donations anonymously
- Create a family legacy of faith
- Invested in accordance with Catholic teachings
- Ability to add to the fund at any time

PEACE OF MIND WITH AUTHENTICALLY CATHOLIC GIVING
Knights distribute coats to St. Francis Center

Father Hohman Council 5253 of the Knights of Columbus, from Reynoldsburg St. Pius Church, presented 175 new winter coats, plus many hats, scarves and gloves to the St. Francis Center in McArthur. The coats were donated by generous parishioners. Council 5253 has collected clothing items in the fall and school supplies in the summer and presented them to the center for many years. Knights Scott Banaski (left) and Tom Vollmer (right) display some of the coats with center director Ashley Riegel.

Photo courtesy K of C Council 5253

Gift for bishop from Miraculous Medal Church

Bishop Robert Brennan (left) is presented an African-made shirt by Joel Kapachavi of Columbus Miraculous Medal Church after a Mission Sunday Mass on Oct. 24. Bishop Brennan and Father James Coleman, the parish’s pastor, celebrated Mass and the bishop confirmed a young man. The choir welcomed the bishop with an African song and after Mass the parish held a reception to thank him for his service to the diocese. Father Coleman also gave the bishop a picture of the Brooklyn Bridge. Bishop Brennan will be installed in the Diocese of Brooklyn later this month.

Photo courtesy Fritz Mirville

Local Lay Missionaries of Charity attend retreat

The Columbus chapter of the Lay Missionaries of Charity, the religious order founded by St. Teresa of Calcutta, participated in the recent national retreat held at the Passionist Fathers Holy Name Retreat Center in Houston, Texas. The theme of the retreat was “A Ticket to St. Peter: Feeding the Souls of Our Poor.” Lay Missionaries of Charity seek to live out the charism of Mother Teresa’s call to serve the poorest of the poor, beginning in their own families.

Photo courtesy Lay Missionaries of Charity

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
MAINTENANCE MANAGER
ST. PIUS X PARISH, REYNOLDSBURG

The parish of St. Pius X is seeking a full-time Maintenance Manager who will be responsible for gathering facts and making decisions essential to the day-to-day operations of the parish and school that include managing the design, planning, construction and maintenance of buildings and other facilities for the parish. The Manager is responsible for overseeing the work of two full-time and one part-time staff as well as pro-active facility maintenance and repair, planning and budgeting. The ideal candidate must also be able to negotiate contracts with suppliers and contractors.

Strong basic knowledge in facilities management, facility inspections, mechanics, plumbing, electrical, painting, access control surveillance system, and fire controls is essential. Other required skills include ability to read and interpret drawings, blueprints, and manuals, knowledge of local, state and federal requirements for equipment inspections, knowledge of occupational hazards, safety, codes and regulations in primary area of responsibility; excellent oral and written communication; ability to multi-task, be flexible but meet deadlines when required, establish good organizational skills and establish priorities; exhibit initiative, responsibility and flexibility; the capacity to maintain a peaceful and cooperative working relationship with all building personnel and guests; and the ability to maintain all information highly confidential. A minimum of five years management and related experience is required. A college degree is preferred; mechanical training and certification is preferred.

Offer is contingent upon successful completion of a mandatory background screening and the VIRTUS “Protecting God’s Children” program. Salary is commensurate with education and experience. All benefits are according to Columbus Diocesan policy.

Send cover letter, resume, salary requirement and references to Brenda Brammer, Business Manager, at bbrammer@spxreynoldsburg.com.

VETERANS, continued from Page 17

some of the athletes made news around the world, elevating the disabled in the public’s mind.

In the end, “Wheels of Courage” is about people who met a challenge and took the initiative to make things better. And today, it should be noted that curb cut-outs, ramps, kneeling buses, handicap parking, and other elements of modern life that accommodate people with disabilities are legacies of the movement begun by World War II veterans and doctors.

For free copies of the Christopher News Note LIVING IN THANKSGIVING, write The Christophers, 5 Hanover Square, New York, NY 10004; or e-mail mail@christophers.org.
“St. George Past and Present”
Pre-concert notes by Christopher Purdy

St. George Symphony No. 1 in G Major. Opus 11
Mozart Symphony No. 1
Bach Brandenburg Concerto No. 3
... and other works

Suggested love offering of $15 - $20 per ticket
Purchased at the door or online at:
southcolscatholic.org/music-at-st-marys-concert-series