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Bishop names Moderator of the Curia, Chief Operating Officer

The Most Reverend Robert J. Brennan, Bishop of the Diocese of Columbus, has appointed Father Michael Hartge as the diocese’s Moderator of the Curia and Matthew Schlater as its Chief Operating Officer.

“I am very excited to announce the appointment of Father Hartge and Mr. Schlater to these two new posts,” Bishop Brennan said. “Moving forward, it represents a positive step in enabling us to provide more effective service to parishes and the faithful of our Diocese.”

In addition to assisting Bishop Brennan in his Diocesan governance, Father Hartge’s principal role will be serving as parochial vicar at Chillicothe St. Peter Church, Waverly St. Mary Church, Washington Court House St. Colman Church and Zaleski St. Sylvester Church; pastor for the Perry County Consortium of Churches (New Lexington St. Rose Church, Corning St. Bernard Church, Junction City St. Patrick Church and Crooksville Church of the Atonement); and most recently as diocesan vice chancellor.

Schlater is a local entrepreneur who also serves as board chairman of the Damascene Catholic Mission Campus and the Catholic Youth Summer Camp near Centerburg. A Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School graduate, he received a B.S. degree in business administration from Franciscan University of Steubenville. He is a member of Sunbury St. John Newman Church along with his wife and eight children.

“One of the critical goals of Real Presence, Real Future is to ensure the necessary support to our leaders to embrace the future of our Diocese, and effective leadership of this initiative and our diocesan offices is essential to fulfilling this goal,” Bishop Brennan said. “I am grateful for the important contributions Father Hartge and Mr. Schlater will make as a part of our leadership team, and am confident that they will prove to be significant contributors to the overall success of our strategic plan for the future.”

Local news and events

Deacon Joseph to be ordained in England this month

Deacon Eugene Joseph, a seminarian of the Diocese of Columbus, will be ordained a priest on Thursday, July 22 at St. Chad Cathedral in Birmingham, England by Bishop Stephen Wright, auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Birmingham.

Deacon Joseph, 28, was born in India and has been living in England since he was 9 or 10. He came to Columbus in 2015 to study for the priesthood at the Pontifical College Josephinum and was ordained a deacon by Bishop Robert Brennan on Sept. 14, 2019 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral.

He had to return to England in November 2020 because of paperwork problems related to a change in his immigration status from student to fully-employed priest. He has remained there while awaiting the reopening of U.S. embassies in London and Belfast, Northern Ireland, where he can go to complete the necessary documents.

Bishop Brennan and Archbishop Bernard Longley of Birmingham agreed to have him ordained in Birmingham. He will serve in the Birmingham archdiocese until conditions permit him to return to Ohio.

Because his parents were members of the Syro-Malabar Catholic rite, he has been given permission by the Vatican to celebrate Mass in either rite. There is a Syro-Malabar community in Columbus that gathers regularly for Mass at Sacred Heart Church, and Deacon Joseph has been involved with some of its activities.

Deacon Joseph’s ordination ceremony will be available on livestream at 2 p.m. Columbus time on July 22 at www.stchadscathedral.org.uk. He will celebrate two Masses of Thanksgiving that will be livestreamed at www.tinyurl.com/reveugene: from St. Philip Meri Oratory in Birmingham at 2:30 p.m. Columbus time on Friday, July 23, and a Syro-Malabar Mass from St. Joseph Church in Derby, England, at 10 a.m. Columbus time on Sunday, July 25.

Columbus St. Patrick sponsors events for prospective Catholics

Columbus St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., will be conducting a six-week series of events in July and early August for people interested in becoming Catholics. They are meant to bridge the gap until the standard RCIA course leading to full communion with the Catholic Church begins in September.

Four of the events will be talks, and the others will be a tour of the church and a celebration of the Dominican Rite Mass. The parish has been served by friars of the Dominican Order since 1885.

The program is being organized by Brother Bartholomew Calvano, OP, who is serving the parish for the summer. Sessions will be at 7 p.m. Wednesdays, with the talks taking place in the parish’s Aquinas Hall.

The schedule is as follows: July 7, Try Before You Buy (tour of the church); July 14, Beauty As a Witness to God; July 21, Dante: Don’t Abandon Hope!; July 28, Devotions: Altars and Relics and Prayers, Oh My!;

In-person bereavement ministry resumes

The Seasons of Hope Bereavement Ministry, sponsored by the North High Deaney, is resuming in-person programming for people suffering from the loss of a loved one and looking for friends to share the experience of grief and healing.

The ministry’s next series of six consecutive sessions will take place at the Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center, 64 W. Lane Ave., from 2

See LOCAL NEWS, Page 21
Real Presence, Real Future
reaching out to youth
in parish communities

By Octavio Mendoza

Being part of the diocesan Real Presence, Real Future commission has shown me how much Bishop Robert Brennan cares about the Church and our youth. Working with commission members, who come from throughout the diocese, allowed me to do something new that can make a difference in my community.

As a Spanish speaker, I see the struggles that some in the Latino community face. Many are extremely hard workers with two or three jobs, looking for a better life. But so much effort can distract people from the real purpose of their hard work, and they can forget their families and God.

Forgetting these important things comes from prioritizing money, and some people also become addicted to alcohol and drugs. I have seen many people walk away from the Church because they think they were mistreated or judged harshly by members of the Church community. They get more involved in what the world offers, including the party culture.

I’m a father of two girls, ages 17 and 16, and the Real Presence, Real Future program has given me hope of a better future for them to grow deeper in their faith with the Church community. With a stronger faith, my family and I will remain united and serve my Church.

My hope for this program, which Bishop Brennan is working on with the help of the Real Presence, Real Future commission, is that we will reach more youth, show them God’s love and help those who are disillusioned and following false ideologies grow closer to God.

I hope for new programs tailored to the interests and concerns of youth, using means they are familiar with, such as social media. Some youth become disillusioned because they don’t know or have not experienced true love, especially God’s love. Teenagers face temptations and influences from bad examples presented through social media. Too often, these examples show that sexual intimacy is OK at any time with anyone without explaining the consequences and also that drugs are OK to be used irresponsibly without regard to the outcome.

My family and I have been working with the Missionary Servants of the Word priests and sisters, learning about and sharing God’s love and words as missionary disciples.

We love to work with the priests and sisters because they have groups for the whole family: Chiquitin Missionero, for kids 7 to 11 years old; Adosepas, for 12 to 17; Jumis for single young adults ages 18 to 30; and our group, CERS, Comunidad Evangelizadora para la Reconciliación y el Servicio (Evangelizing Community for Reconciliation and Service).

My wife and I teach Bible studies, help the sisters with retreats for married couples, women and men and also help with church activities. Our daughters belong to our parish leadership youth group, helping in the bilingual Mass. One is a lector, and the other is an altar server, usher or greeter on Sundays.

In my parish, I have served others as Christ served. Being active helps me work out the struggles that my family and I face. Together we deal with challenges such as family conflicts and work difficulties. We talk about problems we see in the world, our community and our family.

The Real Presence, Real Future initiative is a source of hope and joy. It brings people of different backgrounds together. We find hope in the Real Presence of our Lord, and we can work together to build a Real Future that shines brightly for all people.

Octavio Mendoza is a Real Presence, Real Future commission member and a parishioner at Columbus Christ the King Church.

CORRECTION
A story in the June 20 Catholic Times contained incorrect information on home movies loaned to Chillicothe St. Peter Church for use in a video on the parish’s history. The donor was parishioner Elizabeth Weisenberger, whose mother, Catherine, died earlier this year at age 102. Also, the church was incorrectly identified as St. Mary Church in pictures accompanying the story. The online version of the June 20 edition was updated to reflect the changes.

Learn more at:

www.RealPresenceRealFuture.org
It’s a matter of life and death

On June 16, 2021, the associate director of the Ohio Catholic Conference testified at the Ohio Statehouse on behalf of the Ohio Bishops in support of S.B. 103, which would end capital punishment in the state of Ohio. From 1978 until today, the Conference has issued seven statements in opposition to the death penalty in Ohio. The Conference also has opposed every actual execution by sending a letter to the governor asking for his intervention. The Ohio Catholic Conference has taken this position, motivated by the Catholic belief in the immutably dignity of the human person, in concert with many other state Catholic Conferences, with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, and with the pontificates of St. John Paul II, Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis.

So why does this testimony on S.B. 103 and this moment in Ohio’s history seem different? First, the Catechism of the Catholic Church is very clear on Church teaching. In Section 2267, the Catechism states that “the Church teaches, in light of the Gospel, that the death penalty is inadmissible because it is an attack on the inviolability and dignity of the person, and she works with determination for its abolition worldwide.” This clarity has crystallized as the Church has pondered the inherent sacredness and dignity of the human person. Reflecting on God’s non-lethal punishment of Cain, St. John Paul II wrote, “Not even a murderer loses his personal dignity, and God pledges to guarantee this.” (Evangelium Vitae. #9) The Church also recognizes that God never desires the death of sinners but rather their reform. Jesus’ coming in the flesh and offering his life for us while we were still sinners is the definitive proof of a God who wants to be in right relationship with the persons he has created. Jesus exhorts us to go and learn the meaning of the words “I desire mercy, not sacrifice.” (Mt 9:13) Punishment, seen in this way, is always directed toward the correction and restoration of the offender.

This moment in time is also different because attitudes of the public at large toward the death penalty have changed. And that includes legislators, judges, attorneys, wardens, exonerees, family members of both victims and offenders, and many others who recognize the costs of implementing the death penalty, the insufficiency and cruelty of many of the methods of execution, the possibility and actuality of error, disparate treatment based upon geography, income, race, and legal representation, and the failure of the death penalty to provide closure or healing to anyone involved. Recent polling in Ohio and across the country have shown that a majority of those polled prefer the imposition of a life sentence over a death sentence. Currently, 23 states do not have the death penalty.

We are presented with an opportunity in Ohio to make a positive change more in conformity with the inalienable dignity of the human person and consistent with Church teaching. That change underscores our commitment to a principle (the sacredness and dignity of human life) that is universal, informing our stance on abortion, euthanasia, suicide, war and the death penalty. To take action, please go to: www.actionnetwork.org/letters/lets-end-ohios-death-penalty. To read the testimony of the Ohio Catholic Conference, go to: www.ohiocathconf.org/Portals/1/DP/testimony%20sb103.pdf. Please take this opportunity to stand up for life at every stage and in every condition from conception to natural death.

Collegiality and eucharistic integrity

The concept of the “collegiality” of bishops has been sharply contested since the Second Vatican Council debated it in 1962, 1963 and 1964. That discussion was sufficiently contentious that a personal intervention from Pope Paul VI was required to incorporate the concept of episcopal collegiality within the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church in such a way that the pope’s primacy and universal jurisdiction were safeguarded. The debate about collegiality has continued ever since. Now, however, it’s focused more on what kind of collegiality exists within national conferences of bishops. Is it an “affective collegiality” of mutual support and encouragement? Or is episcopal collegiality within bishops’ conferences “effective,” such that a conference has real teaching and legislative authority?

Whether collegiality is “affective,” “effective,” or some combination of the two, it ought to be clear what truly “collegial” behavior isn’t.

It isn’t individual bishops attempting end-runs around their national conference, appealing for Roman interventions that would forestall debates that their brother bishops wish to engage. It isn’t bishops trying to browbeat the conference chairman into changing an agenda to suit the tastes of a distinct minority — and misleading their brother bishops as to what they’re about when soliciting support for such a gambit. And it isn’t trying to fillibus a conference meeting so that no action is possible on an agenda item that the great majority of bishops wish to consider and act upon.

If any of those three maneuvers qualifies as collegial, then “collegiality” has no more meaning than the claim that my poor Baltimore Orioles have a great starting rotation.

FAITH IN ACTION
Mark Huddy
Mark Huddy is the Episcopal Moderator for Catholic Charities and the Office for Social Concerns in the Diocese of Columbus.

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE
George Weigel
George Weigel is the Distinguished Senior Fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C.

For years now — and by “years,” I mean long before the idea of a “President Biden” entered the stream of national consciousness — the bishops of the United States have been concerned that ours is becoming less of a eucharistic Church than Vatican II called us to be when it taught that the Eucharist is the “source and summit” of the Church’s life. Pope St. John Paul II reaffirmed that conciliar summons when, in his final encyclical, he taught that “the Church draws her life from the Eucharist,” which “recapitulates the heart and mystery of the Church.” Yet all around us we see declining Sunday Mass attendance: a sadness that preceded the pandemic but has been further exacerbated by it. Moreover, surveys suggest that too many Catholics think of Sunday Mass as essentially a social occasion, rather than an encounter with the living God in which Christ is offered to the Father and is given back to his people in holy communion — a communion in and through the body and blood, soul and divinity of Christ, received under the forms of bread and wine.

If the Church lives from the Eucharist and yet the people of the Church don’t participate in the Eucharist as often as they should, or don’t understand what they’re celebrating and receiving when they do, then the Church suffers from a serious eucharistic deficit. Those ordained to leadership in the Church are obliged to do something about that.

That is why the U.S. bishops have been determined for some time to undertake a comprehensive program of eucharistic education throughout the Church. For the great majority of bishops, that determination has been intensified by the fact that our eucharistic deficit is being compounded by the eucharistic incoherence of public officials who, rejecting authoritative Catholic teaching based on both revelation and reason, nonetheless present themselves for holy communion as if they were in full communion with the Church. The longstanding episcopal failure to address this incoherence exacerbates the eucharistic deficit in American Catholicism by implying that the Church really doesn’t mean what it teaches about the sacred nature of the Eucharist.

Those suggesting that this is all about “politics” are either ill-informed or deliberately misleading the Church and the gullible parts of the media. Concern for the eucharistic integrity of the Church includes, but goes much deeper than, concerns about the eucharistic incoherence of Catholic public officials who act as if the Church’s settled convictions on the life issues and on worthiness to receive holy communion don’t exist. That is why the U.S. bishops are forging ahead with developing a teaching document that will clarify for the whole Church why we are a Eucharistic community, what the Eucharist truly is, what reception of the Eucharist means, and why everyone in the Church should examine conscience before receiving Christ in the sacrament.

The wheels of collegiality may grind slowly. In this case, however, they are grinding truly, and for the sake of the Gospel.
First-time pastors look forward to serving as shepherds

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

Several priests of the Diocese of Columbus who begin their initial assignments as pastors later this month, and one who recently became a first-time pastor, are enthusiastic about the opportunity to get to know people of their new parishes and to serve them as spiritual shepherds.

“I look forward to serving the people of the Scioto Catholic Consortium and to immersing my life in theirs,” said Father Brian Beal, who on Tuesday, July 13 will become pastor of the consortium that includes Portsmouth St. Mary and Holy Redeemer churches, Wheelersburg St. Peter in Chains Church and Pond Creek Holy Trinity Church. He had been parochial vicar of Chillicothe St. Peter and St. Mary churches and Waverly St. Mary Church.

Father Thomas Herge will become pastor of Wellston Ss. Peter & Paul, Jackson Holy Trinity and Zaleski St. Sylvester churches on July 13 after two years as parochial vicar at Worthington St. Michael Church.

“I was vicar for a consortium that included Zaleski, have been to Jackson several times and have visited Wellston twice since the end of April,” he said. “I’m excited about the possibilities there, especially since the Wellston parish has a school. I’m looking forward to helping the three parishes in the consortium strengthen their ties with each other.”

Father Brett Garland has been pastor of Delaware St. Mary Church since April 23 and had been serving in effect as pastor since being appointed parish administrator in March. He had been parochial vicar in Delaware since July 2020.

“It’s been a great blessing to become pastor of such a large parish at an early age,” said Father Garland, 30, a priest since 2018. “I felt a little overwhelmed when Bishop Brennan said he wanted me, rather than a more experienced priest, to be pastor here, but what I’ve felt mostly has been a sense of peace amid the ebbs and flows of parish life.”

Father Ryan Schmit will become pastor of two small parishes, Dresden St. Ann and Mattingly Settlement St. Mary, on July 13 after serving as administrator of one of the diocese’s largest parishes, Sunbury St. John Neumann, for nearly 10 months. Father Schmit, who already was administrator of Columbus Holy Cross Church, also was given the appointment in Sunbury when Bishop Brennan granted that parish’s pastor, Father Paul Noble, a medical leave of absence in September.

“I enjoyed serving both parishes, but especially given the size of St. John Neumann (1,800 families), I said to the bishop that I’d prefer one parish or the other once things became similar to what they were before the COVID pandemic began,” he said. “As it happened, a third option opened up.”

Father Beal was ordained a priest in 2019 and was appointed vicar of a consortium that included Chillicothe St. Peter, Waverly St. Mary and Washington Court House St. Colman of Cloyne churches, Chillicothe St. Mary Church was added to the consortium and the Washington Court House parish became a congregation with its own pastor in 2020.

“God’s grace made it unbelievably easy making the shift from being a student to a priest,” said Father Beal, 43, who studied for the priesthood at Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary in Weston, Massachusetts, which specializes in priestly formation for men age 30 and older. He was executive director of Pro-Life of Mercer County, Pennsylvania, for 10 years before entering the seminary, and for five of those years also was chief executive officer of the Missionaries of Purity, an organization promoting healthy relationships among teenagers.

“It was a delightful learning from Father (William) Hahn, and it was a joy to be able to share people’s joys and struggles. My time at the consortium provided affirmation that I was born to be a Catholic and a committed priest,” he said. Father Hahn was pastor of the consortium until 2020, when he was appointed diocesan vocations counselor.

St. Maria Goretti: pure forgiveness

By MaryBeth Eberhard

A frequently quoted mantra in our home is that your story starts and ends with mercy. It is written on the white board that holds family announcements. It is brought out when mistakes are made, feelings are hurt and we desire to make amends with ourselves, those we’ve hurt and especially with the Lord.

Mercy is lived out in our home in tangible ways. Without mercy, there can be no love, for we are all flawed as humans, and breathing mercy allows us to continually begin again on our path to heaven.

How blessed we are to be part of a church that preaches and lives a Gospel message of mercy, a church that lifts up those within as models and companions with whom we should strive to know more fully.

In a society where role models are frequently found from the front cover of a supermarket magazine, it is heartening to see the story of Maria Goretti shared and spoken of by so many of our youth. She is a relatively new saint in the Church, and a young one as well. Her virtues of purity, fortitude and mercy are living examples of the power of forgiveness, and we hold tight to them in our everyday lives bearing witness to the grace that mercy can bring.

St. Maria Goretti was born into a poor Italian tenant farming family. She had no schooling and no ability to read or write. Her family shared a home with another family after the death of her father. She was at the age of 12 when one of the older sons of the other family came into the home and attacked her.

Though she fought this attack, she also continually reminded the young man, Alessandro Serenelli, that this was a mortal sin and would send him to hell for his actions. She was stabbed repeatedly and died shortly after. Upon her deathbed, she forgave her attacker.

Serenelli was sentenced to 30 years in jail. While in jail, he received a vision of Maria in a dream, bringing him flowers, one for each wound he had inflicted upon her. From that point, his life began a new course, and his first act after being released from prison after 27 years was to go to Maria’s mother and beg forgiveness.

Devotion to this small but faithful martyr grew, and in less than half a century, on June 24, 1950, she was declared a saint with her mother, sisters and brother attending her canonization along with her attacker, Alessandro, who had joined the Capuchin Friars.

Allowing ourselves to walk with Maria Goretti is akin to the hard task of learning to love Jesus like a child. In her, we see a strong and pure desire to love and serve the Lord. She is not a saint who was well-echized. She could not quote scripture. Her witness of purity and mercy is simple and fervent.

Reading her story, one can feel this, as from her deathbed she desires to be in heaven one day with her attacker. She pleads for him from heaven, teaching us that prayers go beyond death, that God can make all things new. Her mercy gives us courage to forgive the deepest wounds against us or our family and to trust that mercy can heal and redeem.

In Maria Goretti, we have a beautiful saint to whom especially our youth, but all of us as well, may seek intercession for pure hearts and minds. We also receive the gift of a saint whose life began and ended with mercy. St. Maria Goretti, pray for us.

St. Maria Goretti’s feast day is June 7. She is the patron saint of purity, victims of sexual assault, girls and mercy.

See PASTORS, Page 10
The past 15 months have been a time of crisis and deep challenge for our country, and they have been a particular trial for the Catholics. During this terrible COVID period, many of us have been compelled to fast from attendance at Mass and the reception of the Eucharist. To be sure, numerous Masses and Eucharistic para-liturgies have been made available online, and thank God for these. But Catholics who live in their houses and pray the Liturgy of the Hours at home will tell you that the online presentations are absolutely no substitute for the real thing. Now that the doors of our churches are commencing to open wide, I would like to urge every Catholic reading these words: Come back to Mass!

Why is the Mass of such central importance? The Second Vatican Council eloquently teaches that the Eucharist is the “source and summit of the Christian life” — which is to say, that from which authentic Christianity comes and toward which it tends. It is the alpha and the omega of the spiritual life, both the path and the goal of Christian discipleship. The Church Fathers consistently taught that the Eucharist is sustenance for eternal life. They meant that in the measure that we internalize the Body and Blood of Jesus, we are fed for life with him in the next world. Saint Thomas Aquinas said that all of the other sacraments contain the virtue Christi (the power of Christ) but that the Eucharist contains ipse Christus (Christ himself) — and this would help to explain why St. Thérèse de Lisieux never made it through the Mass without shedding copious tears. It is precisely at the Mass that we are privileged to receive this incomparable gift. It is precisely at the Mass that we take in this indispensable sustenance. Without it, we starve to death spiritually.

If I might broaden the scope a bit, I would like to suggest that the Mass is, in its totality, the privileged point of encounter with Jesus Christ. During the Liturgy of the Word, we hear not simply human words crafted by poetic geniuses, but rather the words of the Word. In the readings, and especially in the Gospel, it is Christ who speaks to us. In our responses, we speak back to him, entering into conversation with the second person of the Trinity. Then, in the Liturgy of the Eucharist, the same Jesus who has spoken his heart to us offers his Body and Blood for us to consume. There is simply, this side of heaven, no more intimate communion possible with the risen Lord.

I realize that many Catholics during this COVID period have become accustomed to the ease of attending Mass virtually from the comfort of their own homes and without the inconvenience of busy parking lots, crying children and crowded pews. But a key feature of the Mass is precisely our coming together as a community. As we speak, pray, sing, and respond together, we realize our identity as the Mystical Body of Jesus. During the liturgy, the priest functions in persona Christi (in the very person of Christ), and the baptized in attendance join themselves symbolically to Christ the head and together offer worship to the Father. There is an exchange between priest and people at Mass that is crucially important though often overlooked. Just before the prayer over the gifts, the priest says, “Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father,” and the people respond, “May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of his holy Church.” At that moment, head and members consciously join together to make the perfect sacrifice to the Father. The point is that this cannot happen when we are scattered in our homes and sitting in front of computer screens.

If I might signal the importance of the Mass in a more negative manner, the Church has consistently taught that baptized Catholics are morally obligated to attend Mass on Sunday and that the conscious missing of Mass, in the absence of a valid excuse, is mortally sinful. I understand that this language makes many people today uncomfortable, but it shouldn’t, for it is perfectly congruent with everything we have said about the Mass to this point. If the Eucharistic liturgy is, in fact, the source and summit of the Christian life, the privileged encounter with Jesus Christ, the moment when the Mystical Body most fully expresses itself, the setting for the reception of the bread of heaven — then we are indeed putting ourselves, spiritually speaking, in mortal danger when we actively stay away from it. Just as a physician might observe that you are endangering your life by eating fatty foods, smoking and refraining from exercise, so a doctor of the soul will tell you that abstaining from the Mass is compromising your spiritual health. Of course, as I suggested above, it has always been the law of the Church that an individual may decide to miss Mass for legitimate prudential reasons — and this certainly obtains during these waning days of the pandemic.

But come back to Mass! And might I suggest that you bring someone with you, someone who has been away too long or has perhaps been lulled into complacency during COVID? Let your own Eucharistic hunger awaken an evangelical impulse in you. Bring in people from the highways and byways; invite your co-workers and family members; wake up the kids on Sunday morning; turn off your computers. Come back to Mass!
Rekindling Eucharistic amazement

By Sister John Paul Maher, OP

When you stop to think about it, Jesus is amazing. He does not ask of us anything He has not done first. He asks us to remain with Him, to choose to be with Him. And yet, He has chosen to be with us first.

In 2003, John Paul II gave the faithful an encyclical letter, expressing his desire to “rekindle” a “Eucharistic Amazement” for the third millennium. (Ecclesia de Eucharistica, no. 6) Like a best friend, Jesus invites us to stay with Him, to abide. (John 15.4) This is astonishing. Jesus is expressing a desire to simply be in our presence.

God made us wired for presence. In good times and in bad, we rely on the presence of others to help us through. God made it part of His plan for our salvation to be present to us. Jesus took on our human nature to walk with us and teach us. Then, He gives a total gift of self to us in the Eucharist until the end of time. What unrelenting love!

Even so, it can be hard to believe in unrelenting love. God knows this. He knows each of our stories. He loves us. He is humble. He waits. When we are ready to “come and see,” He is ready to be encountered. When we come into His Eucharistic Presence, we can rest. We can speak to God as a friend. He speaks to us as a friend in the Gospels. When we open the Scriptures, we can often recognize the Word of God guiding us and offering a response to our prayer.

We all need grace to keep an ongoing friendship with God. Like any relationship, it takes two, and perseverance. When it gets challenging, we can ask for grace and strength. God will give it. We should not be discouraged by failure or fear. We recall Pope Francis’ words: “When we receive the Eucharist, Jesus knows we are sinners and make many mistakes, but he does not give up joining his life to ours.” (Angelus on the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, 2021)

God comes to us through the sacraments. He restores our union with him by embracing us in mercy through Confession. There is nothing like the lightness of heart that comes after a good Confession. By going to Mass and Confession regularly, we receive grace to avoid sin and grow our friendship with God.

As St. John Paul writes, when we receive Jesus, He enters into friendship with us. “We can say that not only each of us receives Christ, but also that Christ receives each of us.” (EE, no.22) It is a wonder to think of God receiving us! If we cannot receive Him physically in the Eucharist, we can unite ourselves to Him spiritually.

Spiritual communion is one way to unite ourselves to Jesus, especially if we cannot attend Mass. Making a spiritual communion daily can “cultivate in our hearts a constant desire for the sacrament of the Eucharist.” (EE, no. 34)

How healthy is your Domestic Church?

By Dr. Gregory Popcak

For the last several months, this column has been exploring the Liturgy of Domestic Church Life, a model of family spirituality that helps families encounter Christ more meaningfully at home.

To briefly recap, the Liturgy of Domestic Church Life enables Christian families to bring Eucharistic grace home, be transformed by it and carry it out to the world. This liturgy of family life is made up of three rites – the Rite of Christian Relationships, the Rite of Family Rituals, and the Rite of Reaching Out – each of which is tied to our baptismal call to live as priests, prophets and royals, respectively. Finally, each rite recommends four practices that families are encouraged to live out in a way that works best for them but, when taken together, help them experience all the blessings and benefits that come from creating an authentically Christian household.

Although it’s a simple model, it can be a lot to take in all at once. In response to reader’s requests for a simple resource to help them learn to celebrate the Liturgy of Domestic Church Life, I’ve developed a little “quiz” that reviews the high points and can help you determine your family’s strengths and areas of growth.

How well is your family living the three rites that make up the Liturgy of Domestic Church Life? Take the following quiz to find out. Rate your family on a scale of 1 (“We don’t do this at all.”) to 5 (“This describes us perfectly.”)

1. The Rite of Christian Relationships helps families live the priestly mission of baptism. When we work to overcome the selfish, sinful ways we treat each other, imitate Christ’s generous, incarnate love and consecrate the things we do all day to Christ, family life becomes a “little way of holiness.”

   a. We prioritize family time. Because we can only form godly kids if we spend meaningful time together every day, we don’t let outside activities compete with our efforts to create a close-knit, family team.

   b. We are extravagantly affectionate. Christ’s love is generous and incarnate. As a Christian household, we imitate Christ by being generously and appropriately affectionate, affirming and supportive of one another.

   c. Pope St. John Paul II said that Christian relationships are characterized by “mutual self-giving.” We work hard to respond to each other’s needs (parents and kids), promptly, generously, consistently and cheerfully.

   d. We practice Discipleship Discipline in our home. As St. John Bosco taught, we reject harsh punishments and focus on teaching, supporting and encouraging godly behavior through “reason, religion and loving-kindness.”

2. The Rite of Family Rituals equips families to live the prophetic mission of baptism. When families work, play, talk and pray together every day, they witness to the ways Christians relate to work, leisure, others and faith.

   a. Work rituals. Each day, instead of dividing and conquering, we make time to do at least some household chores together. We don’t think of chores as just “things that have to get done.” We know they are opportunities to learn to be a team and take good care of each other.

   b. Play rituals. Every day, we make a point to play together, enjoy each other’s company and model healthy ways to celebrate our life together.

   c. Talk rituals. Several times a week, we have meaningful conversations (not lectures) about faith, values, how God is showing up for us and how we can take better care of each other.

   d. Prayer rituals. We pray together as a family throughout each day. We relate to Jesus as another member of our family. We regularly praise him and ask for his help.

3. The Rite of Reaching Out equips families to live the royal mission of baptism. We reign with Christ by serving with him.

   a. We take good care of each other at home. Authentic Christian service begins with caring generously for the people under our roof.

   b. We think about others even when we’re home. As a family, we donate our gently-used items, look for ways to help our neighbors and make our home a place where others can enjoy godly fun and fellowship.

   c. We are kind, thoughtful and use good manners in and outside our home. As a family, we’re conscious of leaving people happier than we found them.

   d. We regularly engage in charitable service together as a family.

How’d you do? Every family has strengths and areas for growth. To discover more ways the Liturgy of Domestic Church Life can bless your family, visit our Facebook discussion group, CatholicHOM (Households on Mission) – Family Discipleship.

Dr. Greg Popcak, the executive director of the Peyton Institute for Domestic Church Life, is the author of many books, including Discovering God Together. Learn more at PeytonFamilyInstitute.org.
All of creation is beautiful and deserves our respect

“Aquinas Corner
Richard Arnold
Richard Arnold, a parishioner at Chiliicoh St. Mary, holds an MA in Catechetics and Evangelization from Franciscan University of Steubenville and is a husband and a father to two children.

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You are indeed Holy, O Lord, and all you have created rightly gives you praise. for through your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, by the power and working of the Holy Spirit, you give life to all things and make them holy...” — Eucharistic Prayer III

In my most recent column, I gave you St. Thomas’ requirements for beauty. Your conscience is the place you figure out the beautiful. Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) 1798 tells us, “A well-formed conscience is upright and truthful. It formulates its judgments according to reason, in conformity with the true good willed by the wisdom of the Creator...”

One key to energizing the Christian life is to re-capture and realize the beautiful. This for this to happen, we must start small and simple and go back to the beginning.

CCC 41 (from my previous column) and the above quote from Eucharistic Prayer III speak of creation. Scripture and tradition never cease to teach and celebrate this fundamental truth: “The world was made for the glory of God” (CCC 293).

St. Thomas adds this, “Creatures came into existence when the key of love opened his hand.” Man is the summit of the creator’s work, as the inspired verse children, the AAP statement instead rejected the watchful waiting approach to helping gender-dissatisfied associations in the world use what’s called “affirmation-based approaches” for children’s mental health services, in opposition to the Tavistock Clinic, noted in a critical review of the AAP statement, “Although almost all clinics and professional societies like the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). Parents have a serious obligation to protect their children from the gender-reassignment industry, which profits handsomely from the lucrative, long-term hormone prescriptions and the multiple complex surgeries. When parents give consent for cross-sex interventions on their children, they will often do so under pressure from clinicians and professional societies like the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP).

Keira and other detractors insist that extended waiting periods, with appropriate questioning and challenging of young people, need to occur as part of a good psychotherapeutic response to claims of gender dysphoria. The AAP, meanwhile, strongly discourages such approaches, telling pediatric primary care providers, in an official statement, “to be a reliable source of validation, support, and reassurance.” and exclusively to pursue “affirmation-based approaches” for children’s mental health services, including pharmacological and surgical interventions. As James Cantor, director of the Toronto Sexuality Centre, noted in a critical review of the AAP statement, “Although almost all clinics and professional associations in the world use what’s called the watchful waiting approach to helping gender-dissatisfied children, the AAP statement instead rejected...”

Making Sense of Bioethics
Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk
Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, PhD, earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and postdoctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the Diocese of Fall River, Massachusetts, and serves as director of education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See www.ncbcenter.org.

The Fall. This event might be likened to a cosmic spiritual nuclear weapon. We often think it affected only man, but we took all of creation “down” with us. Our harmony with creation is broken; creation is now subject “to its bondage to decay.” Death makes its entrance into human history.

Beauty...where? Despite the “disaster” in Eden, what God created is still good and each creature possesses its own goodness and perfection. The beauty of creation still reflects the infinite beauty of the creator and ought to inspire the respect and submission of man’s intellect and will. Beauty...where? Start small and at home: pests.

The normal homeowner “works” to keep places such as the front porch clear of pests. I submit to you, that before you squash the life out of the spider that has erected a web, look at the beauty...the symmetry, the functionality, the location, all those things that a spider would do to capture its prey. It is doing exactly what it is supposed to do and is trying to live.

Before you take actions that you feel you must do and that result in the death of a creature, lament, because that creature was created by God and participates in His goodness and His beauty. Through your prior lamentations and appreciations of beauty, you might think of alternatives such as capturing and relocating.

I have driven 10 miles with a captured bat, hoping that it would continue life, eating mosquitos and not returning to my attic. And I find joy in that. If you are harassed by mosquitos on your front porch, say a prayer that they will go next door (just kidding).

In finding beauty in these small places, I hope you will find beauty in many other places where you had not before, and you will find yourself participating more greatly in God’s creation and be all the more happy for it. There is a solidarity among all creatures arising from the fact that all have the same creator and are all ordered to his glory.

St. Francis of Assisi tells us in his Canticle of the Creatures: “May you be praised, O Lord, in all your creatures, especially brother sun, by whom you give us light for the day; he is beautiful, radiating great splendor, and offering us a symbol of you, the Most High. ... May you be praised, my Lord, for sister water, who is very useful and humble, precious and chaste. May you be praised, my Lord, for sister earth, our mother, who bears and feeds us, and produces the variety of fruits and dappled flowers and grasses. ... Praise and bless my Lord, give thanks and serve him in all humility.”

Our interaction with creation needn’t be political, adversarial or careless. It will be beneficial, both physically and spiritually, if we see and appreciate the beauty.

Challenging the establishment on childhood gender transitions

A 23-year-old woman named Keira Bell recently brought a pivotal lawsuit against the National Health Services Gender Identity Development Clinic in London, better known as the Tavistock Clinic. Keira experienced significant personal harm from puberty blockers, testosterone and an operation to remove her breasts. She claims the medical staff at the clinic failed to challenge her seriously as a teenager to transition to a male. In a landmark ruling delivered in December 2020, a British court upheld her claim that she’d been rushed through gender reassignment without proper safeguards.

Keira represents the leading edge of a new class of young people struggling with gender dysphoria who, as they become adults, are starting to push back against various “gender affirmation” interventions perpetrated against them, even, in some cases, seeking legal recourse and financial redress. As these intrepid individuals challenge the status quo, they are becoming known as “trans-desisters” or “detransitioners.”

When Keira was 16 and struggling with gender dysphoria, she was referred to the Tavistock Clinic and was almost immediately launched down the medical path. After three one-hour long visits to the medical facility, she was prescribed puberty blockers, powerful drugs that delay the development of signs of puberty. In an interview with the British Broadcasting Corporation, she stated that there hadn’t been adequate investigation or therapy prior to that stage.

“I should have been challenged on the proposals or the claims that I was making for myself,” she said. “I think that would have made a big difference.” Later, she was prescribed the male hormone testosterone to help her develop male features like a beard, moustache and a deep voice. A few years later, she underwent a mastectomy.

“Initially I felt very relieved and happy about things, but I think as the years go on, you start to feel less and less enthusiastic or even happy about things,” she said.

“You can continue to dig yourself deeper into this hole or you can choose to come out of it and have the weight lifted off your shoulders.”

She stopped taking the cross-sex hormones at age 22 and says she has come to accept being female now. She remains upset, however, about what had happened to her over the last decade.

“I was allowed to run with this idea that I had, almost like a fantasy, as a teenager... and it has affected me in the long run as an adult.”

Vulnerable young people, caught up in the pressure of the moment, have too easily been drawn into life-altering pathways involving medications and scalpels with their frequently irreversible effects. Puberty blockers, cross-sex hormones and complex surgeries can all lead to permanent damage, even the destruction of a young person’s reproductive organs and fertility.

Now in her early 20s, Keira soberly observes, “I’m very young. I’ve only just stepped into adulthood and I have to deal with this kind of burden or radical difference.”

Parents have a serious obligation to protect their children from the gender-reassignment industry, which profits handsomely from the lucrative, long-term hormone prescriptions and the multiple complex surgeries. When parents give consent for cross-sex interventions on their children, they will often do so under pressure from clinicians and professional societies like the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP).

Keira and other detractors insist that extended waiting periods, with appropriate questioning and challenging of young people, need to occur as part of a good psychotherapeutic response to claims of gender dysphoria. The AAP, meanwhile, strongly discourages such approaches, telling pediatric primary care providers, in an official statement, “to be a reliable source of validation, support, and reassurance,” and exclusively to pursue “affirmation-based approaches” for children’s mental health services, including pharmacological and surgical interventions.

As James Cantor, director of the Toronto Sexuality Centre, noted in a critical review of the AAP statement, “Although almost all clinics and professional associations in the world use what’s called the watchful waiting approach to helping gender-diverse children, the AAP statement instead rejected...”
Brother Thomas Piolata, OFM Cap, says the wise words of a Columbus diocesan priest helped him discern how best to serve God.

“I had thought about becoming a priest since I was a boy, and joining the Capuchin Franciscan order had been on my mind off and on since I was 18,” he said. “It was an open door, and I just had to try it, so I applied to become a Capuchin postulant (someone in the first year of formation for possible life as a member of the order).

“In the summer of 2012, just before beginning postulancy, I had a talk with Msgr. Frank Lane (now retired and living in Cincinnati), whom I had known for several years and who knew I was discerning the priesthood. He told me, ‘You’ve made your decision, and you should stick to it, unless the formators helping you discern tell you this life is not for you, or if there is an overly powerful presence of the Lord pushing you out of religious life. Don’t let discernment become a pathology.’

“His advice became crucial for my eventual perseverance. The year of postulancy and the following year of novitiate were quite difficult because I was dealing with a broken heart from the end of a serious relationship with a young woman and because the strict lifestyle of the novitiate made me feel caged,” Brother Thomas said.

“But I knew I would be lying to myself if I didn’t continue and left for the wrong reasons. Eventually, it became clear that God was calling me. I’ll always be grateful that I listened to Msgr. Lane.’”

During his novitiate, Brother Thomas decided to become a lay brother instead of a priest because he felt called to serve as a theologian focusing on academic work. Like Capuchin priests, Capuchin lay brothers take vows of poverty, chastity and obedience but are not ordained to celebrate Mass or hear confessions.

“I’ve fallen deeply in love with the Capuchin life despite the difficulties and struggles,” he said.

“For me, the vows became avenues of freedom. The day I professed my final vows (March 18, 2018 at the St. Augustine Friary in Pittsburgh) was one of the most beautiful days of my life. It’s hard to describe the tangible experience of grace I felt when I professed my vows,” Brother Thomas said.

Brother Thomas, 31, grew up near Columbus St. Andrew Church and is the only son and the youngest of four children of Carla (Ciotta) Piolata and the late Tommy Piolata, who died May 19.

His father, a real estate agent, was an usher at St. Andrew’s, was involved in its summer festival and pro-life activities and was a fourth-degree member of the Knights of Columbus. The archbishop of Boston, Cardinal Sean O’Malley, OFM Cap, who also is a Capuchin Franciscan, was among those attending his funeral. Brother Thomas’ mother is part of the family who operated the former DaVinci’s Restaurant in Upper Arlington.

Father and son shared interests in golf and tae kwon do, in which Brother Thomas has a third-degree black belt, and were drummers in rock ‘n’ roll groups. “I always was in a band while attending UA (Upper Arlington High School),” Brother Thomas said. His musical groups included 1/3 Nerd, The Shakedown and Suave (“named after the drummer,” he said with a smile).

Brother Thomas said he always was attracted to the Mass, was part of the youth group at Columbus St. Agatha Church and attended Catholic Youth Summer Camp.

“But the major turning point in my life occurred when I began reading the works of Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger (who became Pope Benedict XVI), particularly his book Jesus of Nazareth,” he said. “This made Jesus become so alive to me that I said to myself, ‘I want the kind of relationship this man (Benedict) has with Jesus and to share Jesus with others in the way Benedict shared Him with me.’”

He graduated from UA in 2008 and for the next four years attended Saint Louis University in the Missouri city of the same name. “I applied to several schools, and Saint Louis was the only one to offer me a full scholarship. That made my choice easy,” he said.

He initially intended to be in pre-med studies, but his reading of Benedict XVI’s works led him to pursue theological formation. He graduated from Saint Louis with an honors Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy, classical humanities and Italian studies.

“I had a blast in college,” he said. “I was involved in the university’s Karate Club, Students for Life, an a capella musical group as the beat boxer (a style of music in which the human voice imitates the sounds of a drum), the Philosphy Club and Micah House,” a learning community devoted to service work.

“Saint Louis is a Jesuit school, and I met some wonderful Jesuits there. I probably would have become a Jesuit, but I met a great Conventual Franciscan there – Father Wayne Hellmann,” OFM Conv, who is minister provincial for his order’s province which includes Ohio.

“Father Hellmann is known for his works on the writings of St. Francis of Assisi, and my experience with him heavily influenced my decision to become a Franciscan. Father Hellmann continues to be a dear friend, brother and mentor.”

Conventual and Capuchin Franciscans are branches of the religious order founded by Francis of Assisi in 1209. Brother Thomas said he had been in contact with the Capuchins off and on during his college years because he was touched by a visit to Assisi and Padua, Italy, during a vacation in 2017, which led a priest to ask him, “Have you thought of joining the Capuchins?”

His year of postulancy was spent in Philadelphia, where he served in a door-to-door ministry in the city’s Kensington neighborhood and as an intern with Project Dawn, an initiative similar to Franklin County’s CATCH Court, which helps survivors of human trafficking recover through counseling and drug and alcohol treatment.

During his year of novitiate, he volunteered at the Catholic Charities food pantry in Santa Barbara, California. He took his first (or simple) vows as a Franciscan in 2014, followed by four years of formation in Washington, D.C., which included ministry and teaching work at several locations in the city. During that time, he also earned Master of Arts degrees in philosophy (2016) and theology (2018) at Catholic University of America.

For the past three years, he has studied at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, earning a baccalaureate and a licentiate in sacred theology. He was called home for his father’s funeral and will stay in Columbus until August, when he will fly to Germany for two months to study the German language before beginning doctoral studies in Rome in October.

He said he continues to enjoy golf but doesn’t get much chance to play in Rome because the city doesn’t have many golf courses. Some of his favorite pastimes in the Italian capital are bicycling, tae kwon do, visiting churches and “mixing beer and good conversation with friends.”

His academic interests are in medieval theology, especially St. Bonaventure, one of the earliest members of the Franciscans. He hopes to write his doctoral thesis on St. Bonaventure’s theology of the Holy Spirit.

“I began to read Bonaventure with bias because Cardinal Ratzinger likes him,” he said. “In Bonaventure’s writings, I found a profoundly rich and deep synthesis of faith in which Christ emerges explicitly as the centerpiece, and a vision of creation that speaks of God and points to Him in a very robust way.”

Brother Thomas said he feels blessed to have been formed by his parents’ good example and unconditional love and for the support of his Capuchin brothers that has allowed him to pursue his interest in theology. “I treasure my vocation as a brother,” he said, “and I hope by the grace of God I can help contribute to the vision of St. Francis – to live and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ.”
homilies in my head. Here in Worthington, I had to figure out where to do these things, and I’ve ended up taking drives in the country anyway or walking around town to work out my thoughts.

“I think the biggest thing I’ve come to realize in the past three years is that the face of the priest is almost like the front door of a church,” he said. “You have to approach people in a way that says, ‘Welcome,’ not just with words, but with actions and expressions, engaging people where they are and saying, ‘We’re here for you.’”

“It’s interesting how things have differed in my two assignments. In the consortium, there were lots of funerals but few baptisms or weddings. In Worthington, it was the other way around, with more baptisms and weddings and slightly fewer funerals. In the consortium, I visited the homebound mainly in their homes; Worthington has few homebound in their residences but many in nursing homes.”

“I’ve been in Worthington through ‘COVID-tide,’ and the state’s shutdown orders meant I couldn’t make many of those calls to the homebound, except for hospice-related situations where people were dying. I was the backup for dealing with COVID patients in such instances at Mount Carmel St. Ann’s Hospital in Westerville. I was one of the priests trained in March on the protocols of dealing with COVID patients in hospitals or nursing homes, but I handled only one call along those lines, and that was in December,” Father Herge said.

“One lesson I’ve learned in three years in the priesthood is that the priest can’t be the only one from the Church interacting with the people in the parish. It’s important that others from the parish get involved with people and their needs, while still keeping a connection with the priest.”

“The biggest opportunity for changing people’s perception of the Church doesn’t come from Sunday Masses but from things like funerals, weddings or seeing people at hospitals or nursing homes or on the street,” he said. “The people you see on Sunday for the most part are those fully committed to the Church, while those you see in daily activities give you the best chance to be a missionary disciple. I try to be fully present at all those places.

“One thing that will be nice about being a pastor is that when people call with questions, I won’t have to say, ‘I don’t know. The pastor decides that.’”

Father Garland said becoming pastor of the consortium, which includes Vinton County’s one parish and Jackson County’s two, “was a great fit for me.” He succeeds Father Nicola Ventura, who was appointed pastor of Columbus St. Cecilia Church. Father Herge will be assisted by retired Father David E. Young, who is in residence at the Zaleski parish.

Father Garland, who had been parochial vicar at Columbus St. Mary Magdalene, St. Agnes and St. Alloysius churches for two years, hardly had a chance to unpack his bags in Delaware before he had to go into quarantine because he was diagnosed with COVID.

“I came here for my first day and celebrated Mass, did that the next day, and after Mass, something just went ‘Boom!’ and I didn’t feel right,” he said. “I went into quarantine for my first week here, still celebrated Mass privately when I was able to, and used that time as a mini-retreat. I prayed, read some books I’d been meaning to and called other priests. Fortunately, it wasn’t a severe case. I had some body aches and fever and lost my (senses of) taste and smell for a while, but that was about it.”

“Once I got better, I began working with the small Hispanic community in Delaware because I speak Spanish, and I helped the RCIA, PSR and youth ministry coordinators. I also got in touch with the Catholic students at Ohio Wesleyan University, who have an active faith group.”

“One thing that helped me become familiar with people in a sort of non-pastoral situation is that I was our school’s fifth-grade soccer coach. That showed a side of me that went beyond what I do as a priest and encouraged people to get to know me better. I’ve come to appreciate that this is a great community, and people are very invested in the parish,” Father Garland said.

His appointment as pastor was announced at Masses on Saturday and Sunday, April 24 and 25. “That was Good Shepherd Sunday, an appropriate time for the announcement,” he said.

“Parishioners were pleased because it brought a sense of stability. It gave me that sense, too, about the parish and myself. When you’re a vicar, you have no set period for your service to a parish and can go wherever the bishop wants you at any time.”

“As a pastor in the Diocese of Columbus, you’re appointed for a six-year term and generally get a chance to serve another six years. Being appointed pastor gives me time to discern the needs of the parish, communicate to parishioners and implement a vision.”

“I’ve tried to learn from the experience of several priests I’ve known well, and they’ve been very good at reaching out to me, particularly priests who have served this parish. I value what’s happened before and recognize I need to know the parish’s history. Every pastor is different than the one before, and I feel no need to make changes all at once,” Father Garland said.

“I know I’m not meant to be the Savior; that’s Jesus’ job, while mine is to follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit. I’m not here to do the heavy lifting; God is.”

Father Schmit, 39, has been a priest for 10 years, giving him the amount of experience first-time pastors usually had before the combination of more retirements and fewer priests led to the shortage of priests that is being experienced by most dioceses in the United States. He was parochial vicar at Gahanna St. Matthew Church for five years and Marion St. Mary and Cardington Sacred Hearts churches for three years before becoming administrator at Holy Cross in 2019.

Instead of having to choose whether to become pastor at either Holy Cross or St. John Neumann after mid-July, he learned earlier this year that the Dresden and Mattingly Settlement churches had been added to the list of parishes with pastors coming open.

“That would be my choice, because I helped cover weekend Masses there previously for a four-month period, and it always had been on my mind as a good place to be a pastor,” he said.

“Small parishes are a good choice as the first or the last place for a pastor to serve. This will be my first, and since there’s a 12-year limit on pastors, I hope it won’t be my last.”

PASTORS, continued from Page 5
For retiring Hartley principal, short line led to long career

By Tim Puet

Longtime Columbus Bishop Hartley High School principal Mike Winters is retiring from an administrative career that he says began purely by accident.

“I was a teacher and head basketball coach at (Columbus Bishop) Watterson (High School) and loved what I was doing, but I decided to study for a master’s degree at Xavier University through Ohio Dominican College because I knew I needed a master’s to be a college coach, and the added degree would bring me a pay increase,” he said.

“So one Saturday morning in 1980, I went to Ohio Dominican to sign up for a master’s program in either guidance counseling or educational administration. The line for counseling was out the door, while there were only three people in the line for administration. So I chose the shorter line, thinking I probably wouldn’t use what I learned in the degree program, but I wanted to obtain a master’s.”

That spur-of-the-moment decision led to a 24-year career at Hartley, where he was hired in 1997 as assistant principal and served as principal from the start of the 1999-2000 school year until the end of the just-completed academic year, making him the longest-tenured principal in the diocese. He is retiring effective July 1.

“When (former assistant principal) Barb Casson and I started here, we faced challenges related to enrollment, facilities and culture,” Winters said. “We rolled up our sleeves, hired good people and had a vision which you could see had an impact on my first graduating class in 2000 and has grown since then.

“Nothing happens overnight, but every inch of the school has changed in the past 20-plus years because of the hard work of teachers, administrators and support staff through all that time. I’m humbled that so many people who came here in the early 2000s are still here today. It’s easier (for me) to leave because I know I’ve left the school with a good team,” including his successor, former assistant principal Chris Kowalski.

“Enrollment has gone from less than 500 to more than 700, and that’s a nice number for the space we have,” he said. “We’ve done a good job in terms of the budget, going from having no savings to financial solvency, thanks to the support of generous donors.”

Winters said important roles in the school’s success were played by former business manager Ken Collura and former development directors Helmut Naunheimer and Tiffinye Hatem.

He said Naunheimer was mainly responsible for a 20-year plan that has led to construction of a new science wing atop the existing wing; renovation of all classrooms; expansion of the school chapel; improvements to the lobby; construction of a new cafeteria and library; and creation of a courtyard.

The school also offers 22 varsity sports, has won multiple state championships, and in recent years has made upgrades to its athletic facilities that are comparable to the changes elsewhere in the school.

“There’s no question athletics is the ‘front porch’ of the school because it’s probably what most people are familiar with, but we made other changes before improving the areas devoted to athletics because we felt this was the right order of doing things,” Winters said.

One of the school’s most recent additions was completed in 2019 and named in honor of Casson and longtime teacher and coach Robert Telerski. It includes a stand-alone auxiliary gym; a weight room; a classroom for arts programs; and a meeting area for the house system in which the school is divided into groups known as houses consisting of students from each of its four grades.

“We’ve had the system for at least 10 years, and Chris (Kowalski) is mainly responsible for it,” Winters said. “Chris had taught at Cincinnati Moeller High School, which had a house system, and we knew it also was successful at Louisville (Kentucky) Trinity High School.

“The idea was to have adults mentoring students and upperclassmen mentoring younger students, and to give everyone a chance to discuss certain themes away from the academic environment, such as bullying and the impact of diversity.

“The system also lets the students have a lot of fun with competitions like glee clubs, Olympic-style field days, and who has the highest academic average or the fewest demerits. They get points for all those, with the winning house getting a House Cup and a day off of school,” he said.

“The houses usually consist of five or six freshmen and about the same number of sophomores, juniors and seniors. That’s where real magic happens. Having all these groups has tripled the amount of student leaders in the school. It was a wonderful effect of the system until March 2020, when COVID closed all Ohio schools for the rest of the academic year. We look forward to having the system return with the beginning of the 2021-22 school year.”

For most of the 2020-21 academic year, Hartley operated under a hybrid model, with students divided into two groups and usually alternating days in the classroom and days learning at home. “Like everyone else, we wanted to be at school every day, and we were able to resume daily in-school learning in March,” Winters said. “Being back made a big difference, because it’s hard learning through Zoom.

“There may be some lingering effects of the pandemic in the coming school year, but I’m confident Chris and the faculty will take care of them. I’m very optimistic for the return to normal activities. Students always are glad to be back and get involved in activities inside and outside the classroom, and I think they’ll be especially ready this year.”

Winters said his goal as principal was always to offer “a holistic program which places everything in its proper perspective and doesn’t overemphasize anything. Without question, faith is the most important component of the school and is at the heart of everything we do.

“Every part of the school is important—the classrooms, the activities, the cafeteria, the athletic field. We want it to be worthy of the love we have for our students.

“Hartley was founded in 1957, and it’s always been a school with a diverse student population, with most of its students coming from diocesan feeder schools. Its mission of transforming lives through the teachings of Jesus Christ within the Catholic tradition, using the six pillars of faith, preparation, community, service, spirituality and leadership hasn’t changed,” Winters said.

“I don’t think students have changed in my years of being a teacher. They have the same goals, aspirations and problems. But the culture, the environment around them has changed, and the pace of change has gotten faster. It’s up to us as teachers to be aware of those changes and try to keep up with them.”

“Let’s the same way with changes in education,” Winters said. “Under normal circumstances, we’re still teaching in classrooms, usually divided into rows, with a whiteboard instead of a blackboard, and we’re still trying to foster a growth mindset.

“One of the most important things I’ve stressed to teachers comes from a book by Carol Dweck called Mindset: The New Psychology of Success. Its emphasis is that perfectionism is not wanted or needed. Instead, mistakes are good. You can learn from them, and they’re how you learn. Before, you either got it or you didn’t. Now we realize that not ‘getting it’ right away can lead to growth.”

Winters, 67, grew up in Columbus’ Clintonville neighborhood, attended Immaculate Conception Church and graduated in 1971 from Watterson and in 1975 from Ohio Dominican, receiving his master’s degree from Xavier in 1983. He taught English for two years at Columbus Father Wehrle High School, 15 years at Watterson and five years at Columbus Bishop Ready High School before coming to Hartley, for a career of 46 years as an educator in the Diocese of Columbus.

He coached basketball for 18 years, including two years as an assistant at Wehrle, all of his 15 years at Watterson as assistant or head coach, plus a year as head coach at Grove City High School while he was teaching at Ready.

His wife of 43 years, Lynn, also a Watterson graduate, is tennis coach at Hartley, a position she has held for nearly 30 years, and also coaches the sport at Capital University.

Their two sons, Andy and Matt, are head basketball coach and an assistant coach, respectively, at Otterbein University. Their daughter, Cassie, and her husband, Rich, are parents of their grandchildren, Henry and Audrey.

“I became a teacher because I wanted to coach, and the two go hand-in-hand,” Mike Winters said. “Once I started teaching, I fell in love with both, for good coaches have to be good teachers and vice versa.

“I continued to teach a class for most of the time after I became an administrator because it was great to close the classroom door for an hour and just teach, putting everything else aside. I loved all the things I did, whether coaching, teaching or being an administrator, it all involved putting a vision and a plan together, and having everyone benefit from a great deal of teamwork.”
Bishop recognizes couples celebrating milestone anniversaries

Bishop Robert Brennan said to the 203 married couples attending the annual diocesan Jubilee of Anniversaries that Jesus has been part of their marriage from the time they recited their vows.

"On your wedding day, husbands, you said ‘I do,’ and wives, you said ‘I do.’ And you don’t know this, but Jesus said ‘I do’ and He stepped right into the back seat of your car,” the bishop said. “Maybe He even stepped into the front and took the steering wheel. That’s what He wants to do!”

The honorees at the event on Sunday, June 27 at Powell St. Joan of Arc Church were observing anniversaries of 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, and 60 years or longer. Each of the 357 registered couples received a certificate to mark the occasion.

“You made a promise to each other and God made a promise to you – a pledge to be with you in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health, to love you and honor you. … You chose to be married in the context of the Church, and thereby invited Jesus into your marriage. He’s the one that stayed, even when the reception was over, and He’s going to be part of every bit of it,” Bishop Brennan said. “Jesus being part of your life doesn’t mean that it will be neat and clean with all the messes cleaned up. … What He is going to do is walk with you through that and give you the strength and the grace and help … to rise above all the tough things that come your way. …

“Jesus is leading us on a journey of faith. He knows the destination better than we ourselves do. … The destination is holy, but so is the journey,” the bishop said.
Couples Celebrating Significant Anniversaries

Jubilee of Anniversaries

The Diocese of Columbus along with the Diaconate Community Congratulates Deacons, Deacon Candidates and their wives on their Jubilee Wedding Anniversaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Deacons</th>
<th>Deacon Candidates</th>
<th>Wives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 68    | Dcn. Richard & Kay Baumann  
Dcn. Ralph & Mary Parsons | Dcn. Roger & Mary Pry  
Dcn. Gregory & Jane Eiden |
| 66    | Dcn. Ronald & Sue Fondriest | Dcn. Patrick & Katherine Wilson  
Dcn. William & Marge Andrews  
Dcn. Michael & Ann Hood |
| 63    | Dcn. Elmer & Catherine Lampe | Dcn. Daniel & Lisa Murray  
Dcn. Byron & Nancy Phillips  
Dcn. Douglas & Susan Mould  
Dcn. Jeff & Terry Carpenter |
| 60    | Dcn. Thomas Sr. & Betty Berg  
Dcn. James & Rose Rouse  
Dcn. Peter & Judi-Ann Peterson | Dcn. Douglas & Tina Saunders |
| 55    | Dcn. Stephen & Sandy Venturini  
Dcn. John & Rita Vellani | Dcn. Joseph & Tara Ciaciura |
| 50    | Dcn. Terry & Monica Acox  
Dcn. Stephen & Theresa De Mers | |
JUBILEE OF ANNIVERSARIES

July 4, 2021 Catholic Times

Yuri & Ana Arteaga
St. Thomas the Apostle, Columbus 35

Derrill & Joan Baltzer
St. Aloysius, Columbus 35

Anthony & Theresa Borghese
Immaculate Conception, Columbus 35

Robert & Christine Carter
St. Andrew, Columbus 35

Bruce & Judith Colley
St. Brendan, Hilliard 35

Devin & Heather Cousins
St. Mary, Chillicothe 35

Robert & Gina Delfoys
St. Paul, Westerville 35

David Mark & Teresa L. Edwards
St. Cecilia, Columbus 35

Brent & Diane Heckler
Immaculate Conception, Kenton 35

Donald & Alison Fisher
St. John XXIII, Canal Winchester 35

Michael & Elaine Forrest 45
St. Paul, Westerville 45

Robert & Jennifer French
St. Peter, Chillicothe 45

Matthew & Susanna Froehlich
Seton Parish, Pickerington 45

Chris & Kelly Hamilton
St. John of Arc, Powell 45

Daniel & Gloria Humphrey
St. Simon and Jude, West Jefferson 45

Peter & Laurie Loft
St. Michael, Worthington 45

Christopher & Elizabeth Mahler
Immaculate Conception, Columbus 45

Raymond & Cathy Maurer
St. John Neumann, Sunbury 45

Bradley & Christina Moos
St. Patrick, London 45

Andrew & Julie Naparano
St. Margaret of Cortona, Columbus 45

Tim & Cathy Neja
St. Paul, Westerville 45

Blake & Gretchen Neurath
St. John of Arc, Powell 45

Theodore & Judith Pagan
St. Matthias, Columbus 45

Mike & Teresa Paszkiewicz
St. Pius X, Reynoldsburg 45

Fred & Darla Reinecke
St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin 45

Donald & Rosemary Shiman
Seton Parish, Pickerington 45

James & Linda Steiner
St. John of Arc, Powell 45

Paul & Patricia Timmel
Seton Parish, Pickerington 45

Carter & Carrie Young
St. Paul, Westerville 45

Jeffrey & Patricia Bartsch
Seton Parish, Pickerington 50

David & Theresa Bauer
St. Peter in Chains, Westerville 50

James Heath & Jayne Elizabeth Bryant
St. Mark, Lancaster 50

John & Margaret Calderone
St. John of Arc, Powell 50

Jeffrey & Teresa Carpenter
St. Bernadette, Lancaster 50

Luis F. & Francoise Casa
St. Michael, Worthington 50

Martin & Bernadette Diprose
St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin 50

Stephen & Diane Dodo
St. Matthew, Gahanna 50

Franklin & Nyea Dovina
St. Sylvester, Zaleski 50

Richard & Susan Duplain
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany 50

Franz & Renee Dutro
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany 50

Rob & Maureen Evers
Holy Spirit, Columbus 50

John & Kellie Erwin
St. Paul, Westerville 50

Joseph & Rosemary Finneran
St. Andrew, Columbus 50

Thomas & Jean Gray
St. Paul, Westerville 50

John Patrick & Maryann Heffernan
St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin 50

Thomas & Connie Hess
St. Andrew, Columbus 50

Ernest & Molly Hughes
Church of the Atonement, Crooksville 50

Mark & Elizabeth Hurst
St. Elizabeth, Columbus 50

Kerry & Kathleen Keathley
Sacred Heart, Coshocton 50

Donald & Ermogene Kelly
St. Margaret of Cortona, Columbus 50

James & Michele Kenkel
St. Joseph Cathedral, Columbus 50

Wayne & Linda Kessler
St. Mary, Lancaster 50

Steven & Pamela Klein
Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Buckeye Lake 50

Thaddeus & Linda Kwiatkowski
St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin 50

Jerry & Susan Lienesch
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany 50

Louis & Mary Longe
St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin 50

John & Ann Luers
St. Joseph, Dover 50

James & Maryann Malinowski
St. Paul, Westerville 50

Jonathan & Teresa Madera
St. Rose of Lima, New Lexington 50

Randy & Sharon Miller
St. Pius X, Reynoldsburg 50

Thomas & Mary Mitchell
St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin 50

David & Nancy Nelson
St. Matthew, Gahanna 50

Timothy & Michele Perrine
St. Paul, Westerville 50

Deacon Byron & Nancy Phillips
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany 50

Thomas & Jane Prunte
St. Catharine, Columbus 50

Breit & Mary Lee Rippl
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany 50

David & Joyce Stahl
Our Lady of Lourdes, Marysville 50

Mark & Elizabeth Toman
St. Bernadette, Lancaster 50

John & Teresa Vennemann
St. Mary, Chillicothe 50

Michael & Esperanza Williams
St. Joseph, Circleville 50

George & Sharon Adamson
St. Mary, Delaware 50

James & Vicki Albright
St. Patrick, Columbus 50

Joe & Joyce Bigler
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, Columbus 50

Carl & Margaret Bogenschutz
Our Lady of Peace, Columbus 50

Jim & Gloria Butler
St. Joseph, Plain City 50

Hugo & Ida Chacona
St. Paul, Westerville 50

Stephen F. & Carolyn S. Dew
St. John, Logan 50

David & Barbara Gark
St. Joseph Cathedral, Columbus 50

Tim & Anita Hinton
St. Joan of Arc, Powell 50

Rick & Nelda Humphries
Seton Parish, Pickerington 50

Anthony & Shirley Iannarino
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, Columbus 50

Michael & Teresa Kelleher
Immaculate Conception, Columbus 50

Keith & Eileen Kidner
Immaculate Conception, Columbus 50

Christopher & Beverly Kilian
Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Grove City 50

Cliff & Joyce Koening
St. Mary, Delaware 50

Michael & Mary McCray
St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin 50

Bill & Paula McWilliams
St. Francis De Sales, Newark 50

Donald & Barbara Mead
St. Mary, Marion 50

Joe & Leanne Miller
St. Brendan, Hilliard 50

Michael & Cynthia O’Connell
St. Paul, Westerville 50

Tony & Tina Quita
St. Joan of Arc, Powell 50

Kelly & Sharon Rickli
Sacred Heart, New Philadelphia 50

Dan & Ginger Risner
Sacred Heart, New Philadelphia 50

John & Susan Rizek
St. John Neumann, Sunbury 50

Gary & Nancy Stengel
St. Andrew, Columbus 50

Larry & Mary Ann Tam
St. Patrick, Columbus 50

Duane & Marilyn Wikeoff
St. Pius X, Reynoldsburg 50

Deacon Patrick & Kathy Wilson
Blessed Sacrament, Newark 50

Scott & Donna Wirtz
St. John of Arc, Powell 50

Terrance & Monica Acquasanta
St. Peter in Chains, Wheelersburg 50

Rodney & Mary Anderson
St. Joseph, Plain City 50

William F. & Andrea K. Balas
St. Michael, Worthington 50

Charles & Mary Baumann
St. Michael, Worthington 50

Leonard & Ellen Berglund
St. John Neumann, Sunbury 50

Thomas & Patricia Berryhill
St. Andrew, Columbus 50

Philip & Sandy Bertrand
St. John Neumann, Sunbury 50

Patrick & Caroline Burke
St. Paul, Columbus 50

Victor H. & Mary Jo Carmona
St. Thomas, Columbus 50

Greg & Patty Chalfant
St. Matthew, Gahanna 50

Jim & Marge Cogan
St. Brendan, Hilliard 50

John Patrick & Judith Maier Connelly
St. Paul, Columbus 50

Earl & Carol Crosby
St. John Neumann, Sunbury 50

Richard & Paula D’Arequiel
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany 50

Thomas & Nancy Degnen
St. Catharine, Columbus 50

Tom & Mary Deibel
Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Grove City 50

Jack & Karen Demers
Seton Parish, Pickerington 50

Deacon Steve & Theresa DeMers
St. Francis De Sales, Newark 50

Michael & Teresa Elsasser
St. Michael, Worthington 50

Carl & Judy Foehl
St. Agatha, Columbus 50

David & Linda Fersch
St. Patrick, Junction City 50

Carl & Ruth Ann Fondale
St. Mary, Lancaster 50

Jeffrey & Mary Theresa Franklin
St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin 50

Horace W. & Rebecca Sue Gilmour
St. Timothy, Columbus 50

Ken & Mary Lou Guiry
St. Brendan, Hilliard 50

Lawrence & Cynthia Harchin
Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Grove City 50

Peter W. & Marilyn J. Hansen
Seton Parish, Pickerington 50

James & Rosemary Harrison
St. Brendan, Hilliard 50

Roy & Kathleen Hinkelmann
St. Mary, Columbus 50

Thomas L. & Linda H. Hollett
St. Mary, Lancaster 50

Lawrence & Barbara Hurst
St. Paul, Westerville 50

Thomas & Toni Keller
Immaculate Conception, Columbus 50

Michael & Janice Kelley
St. Joan of Arc, Powell 50

Mark & Denise Kilian
Seton Parish, Pickerington 50

Joseph & Marla Koebel
St. Pius X, Reynoldsburg 50

Edward & Christine Kriskie
St. Paul, Westerville 50

Joy & Della Lueck
St. Vincent De Paul, Mt. Vernon 50

Thomas & Karen L. Lazan
St. John Neumann, Sunbury 50

Thomas H. & Shirley Lenay
+ Michael E. & Barbara J. Maiberger
+ John & Johanne Marmion
+ Kevin & Barbara Martin
+ Michael C. & Diane M. Matuska
+ Robert & Jennifer McGonigle
+ James & Frances Michalec
+ Patrick & Barbara Moulina
+ Don & Mary Jo Neader
+ Robert & Annette Nowoczynski
+ James & Mary Parsley
+ Rodney & Joy Parker
+ David & Annette Patterson
+ Ed & Cathy Patterson
+ James J. & Shirley A. Powers
+ Andre & Mary Christine Prenouve
+ Deacon Roger & Mary Pryor
+ Steve & Peggy Rennick
+ William & Sharon Richards
+ Steve & Carol Rodabaugh
+ Steve & Marilyn Snyder
+ Greg & Suzanne Stanek
+ Frank & Dusty Stare
+ William & Mary Talbert
+ Larry & Penny Taylor
+ Costantino & Victoria Vigglietta
+ Greg & Shirley Waltz
+ Jeff & Cindy Wright
+ Michael H. & Bonnie C. Wurst
+ Michael & Rochelle Young
+ Robert J. & Zita E. Zak
+ John & Catherine Zangri
+ Robert & Mary Zapp
+ Roger & Sarah Boughman
+ Timothy & Teresa Bialock
+ Jim & Jane Booth
+ Edoardo & Angeline Canlas
+ James & Barbara Chilton
+ Michael & Deborah Derflinger
+ John & Mary Dimond
+ Dave & Susie Engle
+ Ray & Mary Kay Gleich
+ George & Paula Gumm
+ Terry & Rita Hamrick
+ William & Noreen Hartmann
+ William & Carol Jurecek
+ Wayne J. & Marilyn K. & Klenow
+ Fred & Elizabeth Laczak
+ Dr. Richard & Geraldine Lambch
+ Dennis & Sharon McQuaid
+ Charles & Ardith Mers
+ James & Patricia Murphy
+ Harald & Linda Prisco
+ Basilio & Fe Riel
+ William & Ginny Schindley
+ Randy & Rosemary Scholl
+ Leslie & Krista Schopbach
+ Norbert & Rose Marie Statka
+ Michael & Mary Ellen Stalling
+ Stephen & Sandra Venturini
+ Nathaniel & Hazel Watson
+ Robert & Dorothy Williams
+ L. Eugene & Billie Marie Crowley Arnold
+ Andrew & Barbara Ballog
+ David & Kathy Brooker
+ John A. & Shirley A. Callahan
+ Joseph & Carol Clapp
+ Luke & Gail Feck
+ Edwin & Martha Foster
+ Charles & Noreen Hartard
+ John & Elizabeth Hoernle
+ Dennis & Marcia Karris
+ St. Margaret of Cortona, Columbus 50
+ Our Lady of Peace, Columbus 50
+ St. Pius X, Reynoldsburg 50
+ St. John, Hilliard 50
+ Church of the Resurrection, New Albany 50
+ St. Joan of Arc, Powell 50
+ Church of the Resurrection, New Albany 50
+ St. Matthews, Columbus 50
+ Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, Columbus 50
+ St. Mary, Delaware 50
+ St. Andrew, Columbus 50
+ St. Paul, Westerville 50
+ St. John XXIII, Canal Winchester 50
+ St. Andrew, Columbus 50
+ Seton Parish, Pickerington 50
+ St. Agatha, Columbus 50
+ St. Joan of Arc, Powell 50
+ St. Peter, Columbus 50
+ St. Francis De Sales, Newark 55
+ St. Timothy, Columbus 50
+ Seton Parish, Pickerington 50
+ St. Mary, Lancaster 50
+ St. Catholic, Columbus 50
+ Immaculate Conception, Columbus 50
+ St. Philip the Apostle, Columbus 50
+ Seton Parish, Pickerington 50
+ Church of the Resurrection 50
+ Sacred Heart, New Philadelphia 50
+ Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Grove City 50
+ St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin 55
+ St. Andrew, Columbus 55
+ St. Joseph, Dover 55
+ St. Andrew, Columbus 55
+ St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin 55
+ St. Paul, Westerville 55
+ St. Brendan, Hilliard 55
+ St. Mark, Lancaster 55
+ St. Joseph Cathedral, Columbus 55
+ Sacred Hearts, Cardington 55
+ St. Andrew, Columbus 55
+ Sacred Heart, New Philadelphia 55
+ St. Pius X, Reynoldsburg 55
+ Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Grove City 55
+ St. John Neumann, Sunbury 60
+ St. Pius X, Reynoldsburg 60
+ St. Pius X, Reynoldsburg 60
+ St. John of Arc, Powell 60
+ St. Paul, Westerville 60
+ Our Lady of Peace, Columbus 60
+ Our Lady of Peace, Columbus 60
+ Ss. Simon and Jude, West Jefferson 60
+ St. Mary, Lancaster 60
+ St. Joan of Arc, Powell 60
+ St. Timothy, Columbus 60
+ Church of the Resurrection, New Albany 60
+ Sacred Hearts, Cardington 60
+ Sacred Heart, New Philadelphia 60
+ Ss. Simon and Jude, West Jefferson 60
+ St. Joseph, Plain City 60
+ Our Lady of Lourdes, Marysville 60
+ Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Grove City 60
+ St. Brendan, Hilliard 60
+ St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin 60
+ Church of the Resurrection, New Albany 60
+ Holy Trinity, Jackson 62
+ St. Joan of Arc, Powell 62
+ St. Anthony, Columbus 62
+ St. Timothy, Columbus 62
+ St. Paul, Westerville 62
+ St. Patrick, Columbus 62
+ St. John XXIII, Canal Winchester 62
+ Seton Parish, Pickerington 62
+ Ss. Peter and Paul, Wellston 62
+ St. Leonard, Heath 63
+ Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Buckeye Lake 63
+ St. Mark, Lancaster 63
+ St. Nicholas, Zanesville 63
+ St. Margaret of Cortona, Columbus 63
+ Holy Cross, Columbus 63
+ St. Brendan, Hilliard 64
+ Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, Columbus 64
+ St. Patrick, Columbus 64
+ St. Paul, Westerville 64
+ St. Luke, Danville 65
+ St. Margaret of Cortona, Columbus 65
+ Sacred Heart, New Philadelphia 65
+ St. Mary, Portsmouth 65
+ St. Mary, Lancaster 65
+ Seton Parish, Pickerington 65
+ Our Lady of Victory, Columbus 65
+ St. Pius X, Reynoldsburg 65
+ St. Anthony, Columbus 65
+ St. Matthew, Gahanna 66
+ St. Mary, Lancaster 66
+ St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin 66
+ Our Lady of Lourdes, Marysville 66
+ St. Joseph, Circleville 67
+ St. Joseph, Sugar Grove 67
+ St. Paul, Westerville 67
+ St. Matthew, Gahanna 67
+ St. Mary Magdalene, Columbus 68
+ St. Andrew, Columbus 68
+ St. Francis of Assisi, Columbus 69
+ St. James the Less, Columbus 69
+ Our Lady of Victory, Columbus 69
+ Christ the King, Columbus 69
+ Sacred Heart, New Philadelphia 70
+ St. Pius X, Reynoldsburg 70
+ St. Matthias, Columbus 70
+ Holy Trinity, Somerset 70
+ St. Joan of Arc, Powell 70
+ Our Lady of Lourdes, Marysville 71
+ Holy Spirit, Columbus 72
+ St. Ladislas, Columbus 72
+ Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Buckeye Lake 72
+ St. Mary, Portsmouth 72
Rebels for God obey His teachings

Ezekiel 2:2–5
Psalm 123:1–2, 3–4
2 Corinthians 12:7–10
Mark 6:1–6

God’s plan for human beings is not to create a utopia but rather to open us to His Presence in our lives on earth, to create an opening within us to eternity.

When Jesus grew up in Nazareth, He did not surprise anyone until He began His public ministry. Up to that point, He was just “the kid next door.”

Look around you. Is there someone in your life who is called by God to bring a message to you? Are you paying attention? Think of those who share your household. Is one of them telling you something that comes from God? How about those you work with? Does someone there have a message that you are not able to hear because you take him or her for granted?

What about yourself? Have you discovered what God meant to accomplish through you when He put you on earth? What is God saying to the world through you? Are you expressing that message clearly?

The prophet Ezekiel is reminded that even if the people to whom he is sent do not hear him, there is an authority over them. This forges their ability to hold their own emotions in check and strengthens their capacity for endurance of future struggles. God’s grace is sufficient for them.

Adult children who have children of their own are often still in rebellion against their parents, as well as against others who hold authority over them. Without realizing it, they teach their children to rebel against them by their disrespect and the attitude of disobedience they manifest.

A truly adult decision is the choice to obey, submitting one’s own will to a higher authority.

All of us rebel at times, at least inwardly, against those in authority over us. There tend to be two primary reasons for rebellion:

• Selfishness: We see only our own world; we want our own way.

• Altruism: We see something higher, calling us to respond to a deeper truth.

Are we rebels for God and for the truth that He has entrusted to us? What is the basis of our rebellion? Do we amaze Jesus by our lack of faith?

We pray Weeks II and III, Seasonal Proper of the Liturgy of the Hours.

We have all that we need to spread God’s message

Amos 7:12–15
Psalm 85:9–10, 11–12, 13–14
Ephesians 1:3–14
Mark 6:7–13

God has a vision for His people. The world is intended for more than meets the eye. We are privileged to know the mind of God on this point. He speaks to each of us in the depth of our hearts: “Go, prophecy to My people...”

Recent popes have led the Church to open our hearts to this truth. Pope St. John XXIII proclaimed our responsibility to seek peace in our time and to open our lives to the breath of the Spirit. Pope St. Paul VI held the Church on course through troubled times, pointing out the need to evangelize and to build up family life, seeking true progress for all people.

Pope John Paul I, in his brief reign, smiled on the world and reminded us of the need to stay on course through the name he chose as pope, which was also taken up by his great successor, Pope St. John Paul II, who called the world to recognize that faith and reason work in concert to discover truth.

Pope Benedict XVI, whose motto is “Coworkers with the Truth,” continued the prophetic ministry through his encyclicals such as Caritas in Veritate (Love in Truth). Pope Francis contin-

The Weekday Bible Readings

Sunday, July 4, 2021

THE WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS

SUNDAY MASS
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.
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 378). (Encores at noon, 7 p.m., and midnight).
Mass from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee at 6:30 a.m. on ON Channel 195, Dish Network Channel 250, or DirectTV Channel 305.
Mass from Marysville, Ohio, 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 378). (Encores at noon, 7 p.m., and midnight).
Mass from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee at 6:30 a.m. on ON Channel 195, Dish Network Channel 250, or DirectTV Channel 305.
Mass from Waverly, St. Mary, Queen of the Missions.

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION

Mass Schedule: Weeks of July 4 and 11, 2021

MONDAY
Genesis 28:10-22a
Psalm 91:1-4,14-15b
Matthew 9:18-26
TUESDAY
Genesis 32:23-33
Psalm 17:1b,2-3,6-8b,15
Matthew 9:32-38
WEDNESDAY
Genesis 41:55-57; 42:5-7a,17-24a
Psalm 33:2-3, 10-11,18-19
Matthew 10:1-7
THURSDAY
Genesis 44:18-21;
Psalm 105:16-21
Matthew 10:7-15
FRIDAY
Genesis 46:1-7,28-30
Psalm 37:3,4,
18-19,27-28,39-40
Matthew 10:16-23
SATURDAY
Genesis 49: 29-32;
Psalm 105:1-4,6-7
Matthew 10:24-33
7/12-7/17
MONDAY
Exodus 1:8-14,22
Psalm 124:1-8
Matthew 10:34–11:1
TUESDAY
Exodus 2:1-15a
Psalm 69:3
14,30-31,33-34

We have all that we need to spread God’s message
**CATHOLIC CROSSWORD**

**ACROSS**

1. Catholic actor, Robert ___
2. An angel
3. Eight days of a holy season
4. St. Juan Diego, for example
5. Bread and Wine
6. “...am I my brother’s___?” (Gen 4:9)
7. “...of your ___...” (Gen 3:19)
8. Jesus said this divided could not stand
9. Birds of the air don’t do this
10. John, Paul and John Paul
11. Patriarch respite, perhaps
12. Honorary title for a bishop
13. Commits a capital sin
14. Paradise
15. “...for ___ and tooth for...” (Ex 21:24)
16. St. __ de Porres
17. “...one another with a holy kiss” (1 Cor 16:20)
18. “Let us make man in our ___”
19. Pope Pius
20. (Gen 1:26)
21. St. __ de Paul
22. Hosen, in the Douay
23. Sub ___ (secret appointment)
25. Church seats
26. Most important teaching
27. Ark passenger
28. Salt Lake City is found
29. State in which the Diocese of
30. Church
31. __ of the Sacred Heart
32. “...unite ___...” (Mt 7:13)
33. A gift of the wise men
34. Patrick’s place
35. __ uncion
36. ____, to Jacob
37. __,” Enter through the ___ gate”

**DOWN**

1. “...Dei___”

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**MESSAGE, continued from Page 16**

ues to speak on behalf of the poor and the marginalized, telling stories in simple terms to help us realize that everyone can live the truth of the Gospel.

The message of the Church expressed by these popes is consistent: Do not forget the necessity of truth and ethics when making decisions. Do not leave out the vulnerable, the starving, the poor, those who have no voice, as choices are made for all of us. Put the Gospel into practice by word and deed. Remember that we are an interdependent world, all the people of God.

The prophet Amos offers a call to self-examination. The hymn of praise from the letter to the Ephesians is an invitation to count our blessings. The mission that Jesus entrusts to His 12 Apostles is the apostolic mission we are called to continue in our day. We are called to heed the Word. Our world needs to see witnesses of the plan of God being accomplished among us. This is a moment of decision.

Baptism makes us children of one Father. In Baptism, we have been anointed priest, prophet and king, as members of the Body of Christ. Priesthood means mediating God to the world, sharing the divine treasures of our life of faith. Prophecy is a call to share the Word of God in words and actions in coherence with the Word. Kingship is authority to bring the world around us under the influence of the Gospel.

**ST. MARY MAGDALENE CHURCH GIANT YARD, GYM & BASEMENT SALE!**

Sat, July 10th from 8-3, Rain or shine!

Best stuff ever! Furniture, Power & Hand Tools, Toys, Vintage/antique items, Baby gear, Small appliances, Washers, Dryers, Refrigerators, Housewares, Electronics, Collectibles & much more! Also Food tent featuring authentic Latin American food!

473 S. Roys Ave, Columbus, 43204.
Westgate area, near Hague & Sullivant Ave.
ALBASHY, Mary E. (Duffy), 86, May 31
St. Bernard Church, Caring

BERNS, Charles A., 67, June 10
St. Paul Church, Westerville

BERRY, Silvia E., 70, June 9
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Zanesville

BIEKSZA, Apolonia, 93, June 20
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, Columbus

BURKHART, Lawrence D., 82, June 19
Holy Family Church, Columbus

BERRY, Silvia E., 70, June 9
St. Paul Church, Westerville

CRAFT, Patricia A. (Francisco), 84, June 18
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

DIGIANDOMENICO, Mary J. (Belcastro), 92, June 14
St. Leonard Church, Heath

EBERT, Barbara J. (Kirk), 85, June 23
Holy Family Church, Columbus

GALLUCCI, Salvatore D., 100, June 13
Holy Family Church, Columbus

GARDNER, Walter M., 86, June 2
St. Peter Church, Columbus

GUTIERREZ, Juan M., 71, May 25
Christ the King Church, Columbus

INDICIANI, Rosa, 90, June 21
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

KALICH, Irene (Payer), 89, May 30
St. Joseph Church, Dover

LAVIRIC, Nada (Tomas), 89, June 16
Holy Spirit Church, Columbus

MARTINELLI, John J., 72, May 19
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

McCLELLAND, Charles H., 94, June 13
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

METZGER, Jessica L., 42, June 17
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

MILES, R. Dean, 79, June 11
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

SROUFE, Jacquelyn M. (Mayle), 84, June 15
St. Christopher Church, Columbus

THORPE, Michael, 53, June 8
Holy Rosary-St. John Church, Columbus

THURN, Thomas C., 92, June 14
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

VAN HEYDE, Betsy L. (Bermert), June 14
St. Brendan Church, Hilliard

VASILIAUSKAS, Algirdas, June 11
St. Catharine Church, Columbus

WILDER, Naomi (Elwell), 82, June 12
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

**Father William Cyril Dettling, OP**

Funeral Mass for Father William Cyril Dettling, OP, 88, who died Tuesday, June 22 at the Sacred Heart Home in Hyattsville, Maryland, was celebrated Monday, June 28 at St. Dominic Church in Washington.

Father Dettling served in the Diocese of Columbus from 1992 to 2016. He was parochial vicar of Columbus St. Patrick Church in 1992 and 1993 and taught at the Pontifical College Josephinum from 1993 to 2010. He was professor of systematic theology at the seminary from 1993 to 2002 and remained in residence at the seminary as professor emeritus until 2010, when he moved to the Mohun Health Care Center in Columbus. He became a resident of the Sacred Heart Home in 2016.

He was born on July 1, 1932 in Akron to the late Theodore and Leonora (Storie) Dettling. He graduated from Akron St. Vincent High School in 1950 and attended John Carroll University for one year before transferring to the pre-eclesiastical program at Providence College. He entered the Dominican novitiate at St. Stephen Priory in Dover, Massachusetts, in 1952 and professed his first vows on Aug. 16, 1953. He studied philosophy from 1953 to 1956 at St. Rose’s Priory in Springfield, Kentucky and St. Joseph’s Priory in Somerset. He made his solemn profession on August 16, 1956, went to the Dominican House of Studies in Washington to study theology, and was ordained to the priesthood at St. Dominic Church on June 5, 1959 by Archbishop Patrick O’Boyle of Washington.

He was awarded a licentiate in sacred theology in 1960, then became a teacher and administrator at Providence College, where he remained until 1986 except for a two-year period at the Dominican House of Studies to complete work on his doctoral degree.

For five years in the 1980s, he also taught during the spring term at the Angelicum in Rome. In 1986, he was appointed president of the Pontifical Faculty of the Immaculate Conception in Washington and associate professor of theology at the Dominican House of Studies. From 1990 to 1992, he served as parochial vicar at Youngstown St. Dominic Church.

He is survived by a sister, Marjorie Lesho.

**Stephanie A. Kettendorf**

Funeral Mass for Stephanie A. Kettendorf, 70, who died Thursday, June 10, was celebrated Wednesday, June 16 at Columbus St. Cecilia Church.

She was born on Aug. 17, 1950 in Charleston, West Virginia to the late Vincent and Santina Ciccarello.

She was a graduate of Charleston Stonewall Jackson High School and received an Associate of Arts degree in nursing from the University of Charleston, a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from Marshall University and a Master’s degree in nursing from Ohio State University.

She was a longtime faculty member of the Mount Carmel College of Nursing and was involved at different times of her career in critical care, intensive care and nursing management at the Mount Carmel Health System. She also was instrumental in helping establish the Mount Carmel’s Evergreen Program for Children and was a founding member of Mount Carmel Hospice and Palliative Care.

She is survived by her son, Kristopher, and a brother, Vincent (Carol).
It is a time of hope. And few people need hope more than the poverty-stricken residents of Portsmouth in Scioto County— the second poorest county in the state of Ohio.

With a median household income of $28,840, Portsmouth has a 37% poverty rate. To compound this, many Portsmouth residents are struggling with substance abuse and addiction. It can be very difficult for many clients to get to and carry items to their car. They often rely on volunteers to help. Now, clients can better choose, carry and transport their items themselves with dignity.

Removing walls to create open space, providing room for cleaning, sorting and storage of pantry donations. No longer must volunteers stand outside in cold or heat to sort items and bag food.

These renovations improve the quality of services CSS can provide. The buildup likely will allow staff members to help an estimated 20% more people in the food pantry and increase the number of households served in the thrift store by 30%.

For the center and its surrounding community, this is a leap forward that will help put more clients on the road to self-sufficiency and stability.

Time for compassion
The St. Francis Center upgrades could not have come at a better time. In addition to Portsmouth’s ongoing struggles with a sluggish economy and an opioid epidemic, the pandemic brought new challenges, making life for CSS’ Portsmouth clients that much harder.

Many local businesses closed, causing significant job loss. In 2020, local unemployment increased to 15%— almost double the pre-pandemic rate. With schools closed, many children who had relied on school-provided meals during the day had to go without. Hunger and the need for emergency assistance exploded.

These factors resulted in the center seeing more families visiting and, subsequently, more food was needed. In the first three months of 2020, the center served 4,542 people, compared with 2,892 people in the same period of 2019.

In all of 2020, the center served 122,949 meals to 14,207 families. This is why CSS’ nearly finished build-out is critical and timely.

Changes to the center:
1. Moving, expanding and redesigning the resale thrift store
2. Weatherizing and expanding the food pantry
3. Strengthening security
4. Upgrading the parking lot
5. Upgrading electricity and HVAC
6. Moving, expanding and redesigning the food pantry
7. Weatherizing and expanding the food pantry
8. Strengthening security
9. Upgrading the parking lot
10. Upgrading electricity and HVAC

If you have the heart for a bright future, then the St. Francis Center is there to help make it a reality.

St. Timothy Parish
1070 Thomas Lane
Columbus, OH 43220

Employment Opportunity
Position: Parish and School Custodian
Status: Non-Exempt (hourly)
Pay Range: negotiable based upon skills and experience

Seeking qualified candidates for the position of custodian. The custodian is responsible for maintaining of equipment and interior and exterior structure of the building; performs mechanical duties and other duties as assigned.

Duties include and are not limited to: sweeping, vacuuming, mopping, scrubbing floors, cleaning carpets; resupplying restrooms, emptying trash cans and recycle containers; setup and tear down of assigned areas; dusting and washing walls and windows, polishing woodwork, using ladders and moving objects as needed, cleaning sidewalks of snow and ice; performing other incidental seasonal tasks.

Applicants must be able to work independently, pay close attention to detail and perform all physical aspects of job duties. Physical Requirements: Must be able to lift, carry, push, pull, reach, stand, stoop and kneel. Must be able to climb stairs, work in confined spaces and exposed environments. Must be able to work with minimal supervision and demonstrate initiative.

Applicants must possess necessary janitorial skills. Submit resume to gmoshold@cdeducation.org or (614) 451-0739

Patricia A. Morris
Funeral Mass for Patricia A. Morris, 72, who died Wednesday, June 9, was celebrated Tuesday, June 15 at Columbus Holy Spirit Church. Burial was at St. Joseph Calvary Cemetery, Dover.

She was born on Dec. 11, 1948 in Dover to Marion and Leah (Orr) Lombardo and moved to Columbus in 2011. She was a bookkeeper and office manager at Dover St. Joseph and Columbus Holy Family churches and former treasurer of the Tuscarawas County Board of Education and the Conotton Valley School District.

She was preceded in death by her parents and an infant brother, Marion. Survivors include son, Matt (Stacy); daughter, Sara (Mike) Altier; brother, John (Beveryly) Patterson; sisters, Joy (Dale) Rodgers; and six grandchildren.

Saint Agatha Employment Opportunity
Office: Child Care
Status: Full Time
Position: Child Care Director
Practicing Catholic: Preferred
Qualifications:
• Bachelor’s degree in child development, early childhood education, child psychology or a related field.
• Minimum two years’ supervision in a day care or child care setting.
• Must have computer skills, to include proficiency in Microsoft Office.
• Must be able to work with minimal supervision and demonstrate initiative.
• Must have initiative, discretion, confidentiality and judgment when making decisions.
• Must have organizational, interpersonal, mathematical, and communication skills.

Compensation is commensurate with education and experience. Benefits are according to Diocesan policy.

Submission should include cover letter and resume. Send via email to jrgmoshold@cdeducation.org.
Members of the children's RCIA class at Columbus Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church were baptized and received their first Communion on Saturday, June 19. Their parents migrated to the United States from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia and Nigeria. Pictured with Father James Coleman, the parish's pastor, are (from left): Myriam Anapongo; Marianne Khandi; Yollande Phakaloko; Georgia Phakaloko; Precieuse Dondo; Gloria Phakaloko, who was baptized and will receive her first Communion next year; and Heldy Phakaloko. Also receiving their first Communion, but not pictured, were class members Yaarsennehn Davy, Akoma Eneh, Nneka Eneh and Mariella Milando. Photo courtesy Fritz Mirville

The Downtown Serra Club welcomed six new members at an installation Mass and Dinner celebrated by Bishop Robert Brennan and Father William Hahn, diocesan director of vocations, on Wednesday, June 23 at St. Charles Preparatory School. New members included (front row from left) Gail Wood, Marilyn Wikoff, Jeanette Kuschill, Peggy Pardi and Anthony Cacchillo. Back row from left are club president Tom Murphy, seminarian Jake Asuncion, Bishop Brennan and Father Hahn. Not pictured is new member Donna Swartz. Photo courtesy Downtown Serra Club

CATHOLIC MEN’S MINISTRY
CENTERED ON CHRIST • CALLED TO BE SAINTS • INSPIRED BY ST. JOSEPH

TWELVE PROMISES OF THE SACRED HEART

1. I will give them all the graces necessary in their state of life.
2. I will establish peace in their homes.
3. I will comfort them in all their afflictions.
4. I will be their secure refuge during life, and above all, in death.
5. I will bestow abundant blessings upon all their undertakings.
6. Sinners will find in My Heart the source and infinite ocean of mercy.
7. Lukewarm souls shall become fervent.
8. Fervent souls shall quickly mount to high perfection.
9. I will bless every place in which an image of My Heart is exposed and honored.
10. I will give to priests the gift of touching the most hardened hearts.
11. Those who shall promote this devotion shall have their names written in My Heart.
12. My divine Heart shall be their safe refuge in this last moment.

“I do not know of any other exercise in the spiritual life that is more calculated to raise a soul in a short amount of time to the height of perfection…”
- St. Margaret Mary

#CatholicMensMinistry CatholicMensMinistry.com
Columbus St. Peter Church completes 50th anniversary year

Columbus St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, completed its 50th anniversary year at its current location with celebration of an anniversary Mass by Bishop Robert Brennan on Monday night, June 28, the Vigil of the Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul, followed by a dessert reception.

The parish had hoped to conduct additional events to mark the anniversary, but the COVID-19 pandemic prevented those plans from taking shape.

The parish was established in 1970 in northwest Franklin County in an area that was mostly farmland, but has grown steadily in the past 50 years. St. Peter, with 2,500 families, is a large parish, and two larger ones – Powell St. Joan of Arc and Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare – were created within its original boundaries in 1987.

The current St. Peter Church was built in 1973, with a major expansion occurring in 2001. Father Chris Tuttle is its pastor, with Deacons Phil Paulucci and Hector Raymond on the clergy staff. Deacon Paulucci has served the parish for more than 30 years.

Columbus’ first St. Peter Church was established in 1896 in the city’s Milo-Grogan neighborhood near what’s now the site of a Wendy’s restaurant at the East Fifth Avenue exit of Interstate 71. Masses were celebrated on the top floor of its school until a separate church was built in 1929.

For most of its existence, the church was a melting pot of German, Italian and Irish families, many of whom worked in nearby railroad yards. At its peak, it had about 750 families and a school with 450 students.

Many people believe the church was torn down in 1970 to make way for Interstate 71, but photos from the time show cars traveling on the highway and passing by the church. However, construction of the road split the neighborhood, taking out hundreds of homes. At the time of its closing, The Catholic Times described it as a “ghost parish.”

It had two pastors in 73 years – Msgr. Hugh Ewing, the founding pastor, and Msgr. Anthony Schlerntzauer, who became pastor after Msgr. Ewing’s death and was there to see the building torn down on May 8, 1970. Because it was such a beloved church, Bishop Clarence Elwell of Columbus gave its name and sacramental records to the new northwest Franklin County parish being built at the time.

Listen during prayer, Passionist priest tells Serrans

Come away by yourselves to an out of the way place… – Mark 6:31

The Serra Club of North Columbus hosted Passionist Father Enno Dango, CP, for its annual Day of Reflection on Tuesday, June 1 at the Pontifical College Josephinum.

During the mini-retreat, Father Dango urged club members and their guests to practice prayerful silence with an emphasis on listening to the Lord.

“Prayer is accessible to us in every moment of every day and is our immediate connection with God who is both transcendent and immanent,” he said.

Father Dango reminded participants that they need not fend for themselves as God always provides support. He said Jesus claimed every person as His own in baptism, and, for this reason, there is no season of faith, and all can be nurtured as children of God.

LOCAL NEWS, continued from Page 2
to 4 p.m. each Sunday from July 11 to Aug. 15. To register, call Karen Droll at (614) 582-8848 or e-mail her at ks-droll@gmail.com.

Aquinas High School alumni to resume meetings

The Columbus Aquinas High School Alumni Association, which had discontinued its monthly meetings because of the COVID-19 pandemic, will resume the gatherings on Monday, Aug. 2 in the TAT Ristorante Di Famiglia, 1210 S. James Road, Columbus.

Other meeting dates will be Monday, Sept. 13, at Walter Student Commons, Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St.; and Monday, Oct. 4, at TAT. Doors open at 11 a.m., with the meeting at noon, followed by lunch.

More information is available from Lou Nobile at (614) 451-4477 (home) or (614) 313-5889 (cell).

St. Thomas welcomes pastor, says goodbye to secretary

Columbus St. Thomas the Apostle Church, 2692 E. 5th Ave., will welcome its new pastor and honor its retiring secretary at receptions in its undercroft after the 6 p.m. Mass on Saturday, July 17 and the 9 and 11 a.m. Masses on Sunday, July 18.

Father David Schalk, who also is pastor at Columbus Christ the King Church, succeeds Father Michael Gentry, who is becoming pastor of Columbus Holy Cross Church.

Marge McKee is stepping down as secretary after more than 20 years. She has always been a devoted advocate, encourager and strong supporter of the needs and wishes of parish members and the less fortunate members of the church’s community.

For additional information or to indicate if you are planning to attend, contact the church at (614) 252-0976 or secretary@saintthomasapostle.com.

Assumption Mass canceled at Indian Lake Fatima Shrine

The annual Mass for the Feast of the Assumption that usually takes place on or around Aug. 15 at the Our Lady of Fatima Shrine overlooking Indian Lake has been canceled this year.

This is the second straight year it will not take place. Last year, it was canceled because of the COVID pandemic. This year, there was a large outdoor Mass at the shrine on Sunday, May 16 as the kickoff of a 300-mile Marian pilgrimage to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, within whose boundaries the shrine is located.

The American Society of Ephesus, which owns the shrine property, decided not to have a second large outdoor Mass in a year, but its president, Bill Quatman, said it will return in 2022. It had taken place every year since the shrine was founded in 1964 until last year. Indian Lake is within easy driving distance of Columbus, Dayton and Cincinnati and draws large groups from all those areas.

The Mass is celebrated by the pastor of St. Mary of the Woods Church in the community of Russells Point, just off U.S. Route 33, where the shrine is located. The shrine is 43 feet tall and includes a 19 ½-foot fiberglass statue of the Virgin Mary on a concrete pedestal.
Several Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul School students received honors in various reading, writing and language contests during the recently concluded academic year.

The school’s Battle of the Books team of seventh- and eighth-graders won the diocesan competition for this program, in which teams try to identify titles and authors of books based on their plots, settings and characters. Members of the winning team were Kate Phillips, Lily Mayville, Lilly Percy, Andrea Holland and Jillian Beever. They competed against teams from Delaware St. Mary and Columbus St. Timothy, Our Lady of Peace, St. Andrew and Holy Spirit schools.

The fifth-grade team of JoAnn Odonkor, Amelia Bleiler, Aidan Hawkes, Miles Colopy, Abigail Yocum and Serafina Arvizu-Soria finished second at its grade level among seven competing schools in Knox County.

In the Power of the Pen writing contest, Charlotte Petrie finished first in Round 1 for eighth-graders. She also qualified for the state tournament, along with Jillian Beever and Ellie Salvucci.

In the Laws of Life essay contest, sponsored by the Life Paths research program, Brooklyn Grohe won first place among central Ohio eighth graders for her story cover. Second-place awards were given to seventh-graders Ellie Salvucci and Gabriel Fuller and sixth-grader Jace Daubenmier.

Honored in the Daughters of the American Revolution American history contest for students in Knox County were: eighth grade, Lillian Percy, first and Andrea Holland, second; seventh grade, Ellen Salvucci, first and Allison Tharp, second; sixth grade, Xavier Marhefka, first and Jace Daubenmier, second.

Twenty of 25 students taking part in the National Latin Awards received awards, with Lily Mayville and Aubrey Schlariet turning in perfect papers and receiving gold medal summa cum laude honors. Other gold medalists were Charlotte Petrie and Lillian Percy.

Silver maxima cum laude medals went to Brooklyn Grohe, Caleb McNamara, Gabrielle Fuller, Jillian Beever, Ellie Salvucci and Jonathan Day. Other honors went to Melanie Becerril-Soria, magna cum laude, and Gwen Stein, Andrea Holland, Quinn Tague, Conor Crane, Audrey Stuller, Ansley Daubenmier, Maggie Richardson, and Truman Chester, cum laude.

**JOB OPENING FOR PARISH SECRETARY**

Holy Rosary/St. John Church
648 S. Ohio Ave., Columbus

Holy Rosary/St. John Church in Columbus has an opening for a parish secretary. The secretary coordinates and facilitates the day-to-day operations of the activities of the parish. This position offers the flexibility and opportunity to make use of particular gifts and talents of the individual such as computer skills, communication and scheduling of various ministries.

Essential requirements for the position are: compliance with BCI&I background checks and completion of Protecting God’s Children program; high school degree or GED, with additional office training preferred; a minimum of two years’ experience in an office setting; keyboard and computer experience; an understanding of communications and the Catholic perspective; the ability to both serve and lead others; excellent reading skills and communication skills; must be courteous at all times and flexible to adapt to changing needs; proficiency in MS Office and other software.

The position requires 10 hours per week and the pay range is $12-$15 per hour depending on experience.

For more information or to submit an application, email hrsjevents@gmail.com or contact Father Ramon Owera at 614-252-5926, ext. 2.

**Real Presence Real Future Gathering**

**Mass | Praise & Worship | Liturgical Music | Exposition**

**Friday, August 27**
St. Joseph Cathedral
Livestream begins at 6pm

**Saturday, August 28**
St. Charles Preparatory School
Doors Open 7am
Livestream begins at 8am

**Online and In-Person!**
Register at realpresencerealfuture.org
With 18 beehives under his care, Father Peter Gideon says his beekeeping is “a stretch beyond a hobby.”

The pastor at Lancaster St. Mark Church has been beekeeping for 46 years, one year longer than he has been ordained.

“My lifetime interest is woodworking,” Father Gideon said. He described making boats, kitchen cabinets and a variety of other products. His passion for woodworking led him to beekeeping when his fellow seminarians asked him to build hives for their own beekeeping. Gideon agreed and has been beekeeping himself ever since.

Though it’s been challenging at times to find space for his hives at his various assignments, Father Gideon said, he’s discovered numerous ways to continue beekeeping. He has even included his parishioners in the process.

“I started at St. Monica New Boston,” Father Gideon said. “I took hives and found parishioners who had open ground.”

He has brought his bees wherever he has been assigned, including St. Mark.

“Folks here in Lancaster were looking for a place where they could form a beekeeping association,” Father Gideon said. “So I host the beekeeping association at St. Mark. We meet on the third Tuesday of the month.”

From his 18 hives, Father Gideon gets 500 to 600 pounds of honey. He donates the honey to St. Mark’s Food Pantry and other organizations.

“I’m not trying to make money,” he said. “It all goes to a good cause.”

His experience with beekeeping has enabled him to educate his parishioners on the insect’s importance and the damage pesticides can cause them.

“People want to know about the bees,” he said. “It gives me the opportunity to talk about how important it is to grow things and that we need to be more sensitive to using pesticides. It can be risky to bees and to human beings.”

Father Gideon said that when pesticides are used on flowering plants where bees gather nectar and pollen, the chemicals can end up in the honey that they produce. He said it is important to be careful with God’s creation.

As Pope Francis said in his encyclical Laudato Si, “Let us be protector of creation, protectors of God’s plan inscribed in nature, protectors of one another and of the environment.”

Jenna Mar is a student at Kent State University and a Columbus Bishop Watterson High School graduate.
The following is an updated list of dates and times for parish festivals during the summer and fall in the diocese:

**JULY**

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

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

**July 16-17**
St. Joseph
613 N. Tuscarawas Ave., Dover
5-11 p.m. Friday and Saturday

**July 30-31**
Immaculate Conception
414 E. North Broadway, Columbus
6-11 p.m. Friday, 5-11 p.m. Saturday

**AUGUST**

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

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

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

**Aug. 13-14**
St. Mary, Mother of God
684 S. Third St., Columbus
4 p.m.-midnight Friday and Saturday

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

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

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

**SEPTEMBER**

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

**St. Pius X**
1051 S. Waggoner Rd., Reynoldsburg
6-11 p.m. Friday, 5:30-11 p.m. Saturday

**Our Lady of Victory**
1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus
6-11 p.m. Friday and Saturday

**Aug. 17**
St. Cecilia
434 Norton Rd., Columbus
5 p.m.-midnight Friday, 4 p.m.-midnight Saturday

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

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

**OCTOBER**

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