PARISHES, GROUPS PREPARE TO HELP THOSE IN NEED AT THANKSGIVING

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Local news and events

Papal Nuncio to visit diocese for televised Guadalupe celebration

A diocesan-wide celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on Saturday, Dec. 12 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral will be highlighted by a Mass with Archbishop Christoph Pierre, apostolic nuncio (Pope Francis’ representative) for the United States, as principal celebrant. Because of the coronavirus pandemic, there will be a limited number of invited guests in the cathedral. However, the event, which will take place from 10 a.m. to noon, will be televised live on WCMH-TV, Channel 4 in Columbus, broadcast on La Mega Radio 103.1 FM, and livestreamed on YouTube. It will be in Spanish, with English translation available.

The program also will include recitation of the rosary, indigenous dance, testimonies and mananitas (morning prayers) to the Virgin Mary. The keynote speaker will be Roberto Navarro, senior director of U.S. church engagement for Catholic Relief Services. Sister Maria Ecclesiae, HSMCI, of the Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus will be master of ceremonies.

Planners of the event are raising funds to help pay for the costs of equipment, decorations, advertising and other items. If you would like to become a sponsor or for more information, visit https://columbuscatholic.org/ministerio-latino or contact Lisset Mendoza in the diocese’s Office of the Vicar for Hispanic Ministry at (614) 262-7992.

Nursing college earns award

Quality Matters (QM) presented its 2020 “Making a Difference for Students - Outstanding Impact by a High-

Schools take part in GivingTuesday

The Catholic schools of the Diocese of Columbus are taking part in the GivingTuesday global generosity movement on Tuesday, Dec. 1.

Gifts donated to the diocese’s Catholic Schools tuition assistance fund on that day and every day provide help to families demonstrating financial need who want their children to have a Catholic elementary and secondary education. Support for the fund makes a high-quality, faith-based education accessible and affordable for many students attending the diocese’s 42 elementary and 11 secondary schools in 15 of its 23 counties.

Each of the 53 schools receives tuition assistance funds from efforts such as GivingTuesday. This year, the need is greater than ever because of the coronavirus pandemic.

As a 501c3 nonprofit organization, the diocesan Catholic Schools Office is able to receive gifts in a variety of ways. Those who are interested in joining the schools’ GivingTuesday initiative may visit columbuscatholic-giving.org/tuition-assistance.

Parishes and other diocesan organizations also are invited to take part in the GivingTuesday initiative. Jenn Zins, events coordinator of the diocesan Office of Development and Planning, said they may do so by establishing a way of giving; registering as a GivingTuesday organization at www.givingtuesday.org; downloading the toolkit for the program; choosing a project or mission for which to raise funds; and directing givers to their online giving account or giving an address where checks and cash may be sent.

Launched in 2012, GivingTuesday was a simple idea: to create a day that encourages people to do good. During the past eight years, it has become a global movement that inspires hundreds of millions of people to give, collaborate and celebrate generosity.

People demonstrate generosity in many ways on GivingTuesday. Whether it’s helping a neighbor or stranger, showing up for people or for an issue we care about, or giving to causes in which we believe, every act of generosity counts.

“GivingTuesday inspires people all around the world to embrace their power to drive progress around the causes they care about, not just on one day but throughout the year,” said Asha Curran, GivingTuesday’s chief executive officer and co-founder. “With national and community leaders, millions of organizations and countless givers of all kinds, GivingTuesday is creating a shared space where we can see the radical implications of a more generous world.”

More information about GivingTuesday is available from Zins or Tiffney Hatem at (614) 241-2550.

Correction

A story in the Nov. 8 Catholic Times which said Sharon Lieb is office manager of Buckeye Lake Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Heath St. Leonard churches is incorrect. She holds that position only at the Buckeye Lake church.

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT~Clergy Assignments

Father Paul Noble, from Pastor, St. John Neumann Church, Sunbury, to medical leave of absent, effective, September 23, 2020.

Father Ryan Schmit, to Administrator Pro Tem, St. John Neumann Church, Sunbury, continuing as Administrator, Holy Cross Church, Columbus, effective September 23, 2020.

Father Michael Watson, from Leave of Absence to Associate Administrator, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City, effective November 1, 2020.

Reverend Mr. Daniel Dowler, newly ordained Permanent Deacon, to Diaconal Ministry at St. Andrew Church, Columbus, effective November 7, 2020.

Reverend Mr. James Elchert, newly ordained Permanent Deacon, to Diaconal Ministry at St. Joan of Arc Church, Powell, effective November 7, 2020.

Reverend Mr. Jesus Figueroa, newly ordained Permanent Deacon, to Diaconal Ministry at St. Mary Magdalene Church, Columbus, effective November 7, 2020.

Reverend Mr. Jeffrey Hurley, newly ordained Permanent Deacon, to Diaconal Ministry at St. Mark Church, Lancaster, effective November 7, 2020.

Reverend Mr. Nicholas Klear, newly ordained Permanent Deacon, to Diaconal Ministry at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Ada, and Immaculate Conception Church, Kenton, effective November 7, 2020.

Reverend Mr. Victor Nduguba, newly ordained Permanent Deacon, to Diaconal Ministry at St. Timothy Church, Columbus, effective November 7, 2020.

Reverend Mr. Mark O’Loughlin, newly ordained Permanent Deacon, to Diaconal Ministry at St. Cecilia Church, Columbus, effective November 7, 2020.

Reverend Mr. Christopher Walsh, newly ordained Permanent Deacon, to Diaconal Ministry at St. Matthew Church, Gahanna, effective November 7, 2020.

Reverend Mr. Eric Wright, newly ordained Permanent Deacon, to Diaconal Ministry at St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark, effective November 7, 2020.

Reverend Mr. Douglas Yglesias, newly ordained Permanent Deacon, to Diaconal Ministry at St. Brendan the Navigator Church, Hilliard, effective November 7, 2020.

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Blessings from enthroning an image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in homes were emphasized during the ninth annual Sacred Heart Congress on Saturday, Nov. 14 at Westerville St. Paul the Apostle Church.

The event was organized by the Columbus-based Sacred Heart Enthronement Network, which provides instructions and resources enabling individuals and families to conduct a simple ceremony in which an image of Jesus' Sacred Heart is enthroned in their homes.

Jennifer Mulligan, head of workplace and school enthronements for the network, emceed the event, acknowledging husband and wife Chuck and Joann Wilson and Father Stash Dailey, pastor at Columbus Holy Family Church, the network’s founders. Mulligan said viewers worldwide were tuning into the congress via livestream, including some in California, Vermont, London and Singapore.

Bishop Robert Brennan then celebrated Mass. In his homily, he said, “The mystery of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is that the Lord draws us in. He draws us into his heart. He draws us to the center of who he is. … The Lord Jesus comes among us to invite us close to his heart to heal our wounds.”

He said he feels fortunate to belong to a diocese where the Sacred Heart devotion is so strong. “It’s such a blessing for me to be part of something so alive and so filled with faith.”

After Mass, Father Jonathan Wilson, pastor of St. Paul and son of Chuck and Joann Wilson, spoke. He said an inspiration for the Sacred Heart Congress was his grandfather who, after retiring, converted his basement workbench into a Sacred Heart plaque-making station. “He literally made thousands of plaques that went all over the world,” Father Wilson said, “including to Calcutta, India, the home of Mother Teresa and the home for the dying.”

He shared his parish’s mission statement, “Called to Holiness,” and said that seeking holiness should be at the center of everyone’s life, particularly during these troubling times.

“The only proper response to evil is embracing our call to holiness,” he said. “Yes, we need to be aware of the reality of evil, but I’d like to have evil in my peripheral vision. I’m aware that it’s there, but I don’t want to focus on it because (Hebrews 12:2) says, ‘Keep your eyes fixed on Jesus.’”

Father Wilson said a strong temptation exists to fixate on the darkness in the world. However, “if we’re so focused on the darkness, and we’re ceasing to be focused on the person of Jesus, then we are incapable of bringing his light into the world.”

When things bother us, he said, we should more deeply embrace our call to holiness. “Today, we’re here at the Sacred Heart Congress, and one of the ways we can be centered on Christ is the Sacred Heart devotion.”

Speaking next were husband and wife John and Jeanne Swisher, missionaries for the Sacred Heart Enthronement Network who have helped more than 100 families enthrone the Sacred Heart of Jesus in their homes. They’re currently raising money for...
Giving thanks in prison for God’s many blessings

By Michele Williams

Thanksgiving is upon us and the question of the day usually is: What are you thankful for? It’s usually easy to come up with an answer, but this year, nothing has been usual or easy. COVID has changed how I live my life in prison and how I perceive the importance of certain things. At the heart of the matter is giving thanks to God for His blessings and goodness regardless of my circumstances.

This year, I am thankful for my job. I work on the COVID mask-making team at the Ohio Reformatory for Women. Having a solid, essential job to go to every day is a blessing. I am well aware that many people in Ohio don’t have a job and I can’t imagine their stress and struggle.

Our mask making began as a chaotic frenzy in March and we felt the weight of ORW’s world on our shoulders. As the months ensued, we settled into a calmer rhythm and enjoy our work much more. I know we are ultimately being called by God to do the best we can with what we have for His people in here. The demand for masks is constant because we are mandated to wear them all day long unless we are eating or sleeping. And every six weeks, all inmates receive a new one. Talk about job security!

I also know God is helping us because even though all of our materials and sewing machines are donated we have never completely run out. We have burned up eight sewing machines in eight months and used almost all our fabric, but something always appears when we need it most. Whether it is a bag of fabric from someone’s closet, or a well-loved used machine, God has steadily supplied our needs. It reminds me of the jar of oil and jug of flour that didn’t run out in 1 Kings 17:16.

On Oct. 7, we made our 10,000th mask. Whew! In an unprecedented move, the warden and her deputies acknowledged the milestone with gift bags for us. They contained socks, headbands, soap, shampoo and a personal thank you note. Colorful socks and headbands are like gold in prison! Quite honestly, though, I was most touched by the note and will keep it for years to come. I’m just sentimental that way.

This year, I am thankful for the visits I have had over the past 26 1/2 years. Visiting hall closed in March and will not reopen until sometime next year. It has been a devastating blow. However, I consider myself extremely blessed and downright lucky to have had 1,566 visits since my arrival in prison.

My family and friends have been relentless in their dedication and efforts to see me. They have continually made the trek to Marysville without complaint, sacrificing their time, money and energy so we can be together for three precious hours.

There is an approval process for visitors and reservations are required. Siting is limited, crowded and noisy, but I’d give anything to be there with someone today. I really need a hug and visiting hall is the only place I can get one.

Imagine a technology-free zone — no cell phones, no computers or devices, not even fancy watches are allowed. For me, being in the presence of my visitor makes the overall ugliness of prison fade a little. But for my visitor, the rest of the world, high tech as it is, disappears because they have no fact entered my no-tech world. That dictates real, face-to-face discussions with no distractions. How ironically fortunate for us!

One of God’s gifts is to have healthy relationships with other people. Visiting with my family and friends has honored and fostered that gift and I have never taken it for granted. Amid the funny anecdotes and light-hearted stories is gut-level, honest sharing. There is nowhere to hide and no sense in trying. To make some conversations easier and more comfortable, I implemented a rule called “The Seal of Visiting Hall,” which means what is said in prison stays in prison. Probably one of the best ideas I ever had! Everyone can openly share their mistakes and regrets, dreams and secrets, and we all can leave our visit feeling safe and accepted.

St. Paul wrote, “In all circumstanc- es, give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.” (1 Thess 5:18). So this year I am fundamentally thankful for God’s forgiveness, love and mercy. They reach through the fences, the razor wire, the steel bars and the concrete walls to get to my heart. God loves me even though I am in prison! He forgave my sins and He sent his son to prove it! How can I do anything less than give thanks?

Yes, my circumstances are lousy. Yes, some days are 37 hours long. Yes, I am homesick — especially lately. But I am called to live this life with an undercurrent of gratitude for what God has done and will do for me. He is with me in these circumstances. He reminds me that each day only has 24 hours. Most important, He tells me that home is Heaven and He has a room prepared for me.

Knowing that prison is not the end and my much-anticipated return to society is a new beginning keeps my cup filled with gratitude. Knowing that Heaven is The End makes my cup overflow!

What happens between now and then is ultimately up to God, so I have to thank and trust Him for that too. I like to model Blessed Solanus Casey, a Capuchin friar who told people to “Thank God in advance.” I trust that God plans for my life, even though I don’t know what they are yet, and I thank Him in advance because I know His plans will be perfect.

Michele Williams is an inmate at the Ohio Reformatory for Women in Marysville.


Encyclical urges humanity to move beyond ‘sibling rivalry’

It is November. We continue to live with the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Cases and hospitalizations are increasing. Family members are still separated by travel restrictions, and limited access to long term care facilities. We have had a national election that has reflected many of the divisions in our society between rural and urban, between red and blue, between those on the right and those on the left. In the larger world, new conflicts are emerging, religious intolerance is escalating, and long-standing treaties and accords are being dismantled. And so, reading the signs of the times, it would not be a stretch to say that we are a dysfunctional human family.

But, it is November. In the Church, we celebrate the unity of the Body of Christ in the Church triumphant, the Church suffering and the Church militant, as we observe All Saints and All Souls days. On Nov. 21, we celebrate the Presentation of Mary, mother of us all. And the day after, we celebrate the feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, who has reconciled us with God the Father and the mother of us all. And the day after, we celebrate the feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, who has reconciled us with God the Father who calls us to be our brothers and sisters keepers.

Pope Francis begins by identifying many of the dark clouds that cast shadows upon our world. Discouragement, polarization, racism, the discarding of others, violence and fear top the list. And yet he speaks to us of an extraordinary hope, born of the reality that we are all children of the same Father who calls us to be our brothers and sisters keepers.

Pope Francis helps us to see this calling that transcends borders and group identities more clearly in his explication of the parable of the Good Samaritan. He asks us to go beyond our individual limitations by being open to a love for others that consistently seeks their good, and moves us with a special urgency when they are in need. This kind of love is essential in the creation of right relationships and impels us toward a universal communion.

While many of us may feel that we have had enough of politics, Pope Francis, quoting Pope Pius XI and St. Thomas Aquinas, calls us to a type of politics that is rooted in political charity. He goes on to explain: “There is a kind of love that is ‘elicited’: its acts proceed directly from the virtue of charity and are directed to individuals and peoples. There is also a ‘commanded’ love, expressed in those acts of charity that spur people to create more sound institutions, more just regulations, more supportive structures. It follows that ‘it is an equally indispensable act of love to strive to organize and structure society so that one’s neighbor will not find himself in poverty.’ It is an act of charity to assist someone suffering, but it is also an act of charity, even if we do not know that person, to work to change the social conditions that caused his or her suffering.” (F.T., #186)

Pope Francis sees that the path to heal the wounds of our society is built with the pavers of renewed encounter and social dialogue, laid upon the foundation of truth, acknowledgment of the other, kindness and forgiveness. He closes with an appeal for peace, justice and fraternity that he made together with the Grand Iman Ahmed Al-Tayyeb at the International Meeting for Peace in 2013 and with two beautiful prayers.

This column is only meant to serve as an encouragement to read and reread this amazing encyclical, which is much richer than herein described, and which is a wonderful antidote to the sibling rivalries that plague the human family in our day. To find a copy online go to: https://www.usccb.org/fratelli-tutti.

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.

Catholic Campaign for Human Development
Visit the CCHD website: www.usccb.org/cchd

ROMPE EL CIRCULO DE LA POBREZA
Proteja La Dignidad Humana

Únase a la Iglesia para terminar definitivamente con la pobreza en toda la nación
El ’21/22 de noviembre, por favor contribuya a la

Campaña Católica para el Desarrollo Humano

Para mayor información o para participar en el trabajo de la CCDH, favor de contactar a la directora diocesana Sra. Erin Cordle al teléfono 614.241.2540, o al correo electrónico ecordle@columbuscatholic.org, o al nuestro portal electrónico www.usccb.org/chd

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For more information, or to get involved in the work of CCHD, contact diocesan director, Erin Cordle, at 614.241.2540, or ecordle@columbuscatholic.org, Visit the CCHD website: www.usccb.org/chd
Strong faith needed to defy today’s religious persecution

“Viva Cristo Rey!”

“Long live Christ the King!”

As the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Christ the King and the final Sunday of a liturgical year on Nov. 22, those words resonate in our minds, particularly during these unsettling times. Our Catholic faith provides an antidote to the anxiety that most of us feel in these pandemic-upended, post-election days.

A day later, on Monday, Nov. 23, the Church includes on its calendar the feast of Blessed Miguel Agustin Pro as an optional memorial for Mass. Father Pro was martyred on Nov. 23, 1927, in Mexico during the brutal persecution of heroic Catholics and suppression of the Church by an anti-clerical government that tried to wipe out religion in the country.

You might remember For Greater Glory, a riveting motion picture that played in theaters worldwide in 2012. If you haven’t seen the film or don’t know the story, it depicts the Cristero War that started in 1926 after the Mexican government attempted to suppress the Church. Some scenes in the movie are agonizing to watch, particularly those that show women and children dying, but at the same time their martyrdom reflects the ultimate sacrifice made by innocent people.

Ordinary citizens, with no military training and armed only with rudimentary weapons and great faith, banded together to battle government troops in defense of their religious freedom. Thousands upon thousands gave their lives for their faith, including many religious and priests such as Father Pro.

The public celebration of Mass was suspended in August 1926. Priests were not allowed to dress as clerics. They risked their lives by going underground to offer the sacraments. Father Pro wore all sorts of disguises to avoid detection. Fellow priests in rural areas suffered martyrdom in large numbers because they refused to leave their flocks.

Father Pro was falsely accused of a bombing attempt and sentenced to execution. As he went before a firing squad, he prayed for and forgave his executioners. He raised his arms to the same position as Jesus on the cross, holding a rosary in one hand and a crucifix in the other. His last words were “Viva Cristo Rey.”

The martyred priest was still alive after being shot multiple times, and it took a bullet at point-blank range to send him to his earthly death. A published picture of a soldier firing that final shot emboldened the Cristeros. Thousands defied the government and turned out for his funeral, shouting, “Viva Cristo Rey.”

Nearly 100 years later, Christian martyrs continue to die for their faith in China, Africa and elsewhere throughout the world. Violence has increased recently in Europe against Catholics and Christians. Just last month, three Catholics were murdered in France.

Be honest and ask yourself, “Would I be willing to die for my faith if called upon to do so?” Most of us will not be called to the same type of martyrdom as Blessed Pro, but think about how you’d react if someone mocked Jesus or Catholicism. Would you be willing to defend Christ and the infallible teachings of the Church in an uncomfortable situation?

In some nations, Christians are living in an age that has been called “white martyrdom,” where no blood is shed but yet the faithful are persecuted for living authentic Catholic lives in a world that increasingly rejects religion and morality.

Recently published studies indicate that Christians have faced some form of harassment in 145 of 198 countries in the world. According to Open Doors USA’s 2020 World Watch List report, within the past year 2,983 Christians were killed for their faith, 9,488 churches and other Christian buildings attacked, 3,711 believers detained without trial, arrested, sentenced or imprisoned. Sadly, “Christian persecution is higher today than at any other time in modern history,” Open Doors wrote.

The recent U.S. election seemed to make clear that religious freedom and defending the rights of vulnerable unborn children are not the highest priorities for a majority of Americans, including those who identify as Catholics, and also for religious leaders and politicians who profess to be Catholic.

You might be inclined to believe that threats to religious freedom aren’t a problem in America. Maybe that was the case in the past, but not these days. And it could get much worse.

Consider religious organizations being forced to provide abortion coverage or abortifacients (drugs to induce abortion), or to accept same-sex civil unions. Be on the lookout for social media and Big Tech censorship of messages that convey the truths of the faith, such as the sanctity of marriage between one man and one woman.

May Christ the King protect us and guide the Church in the face of these threats, and may Blessed Miguel Pro and the martyrs inspire us to faithfully serve the Lord with all that we have.

“Viva Cristo Rey!”

Gifting with intention requires thought, so let’s settle in

With the holiday season approaching, a desire exists to return to our roots as a people of gratitude and joy. These fall and winter holidays bring nostalgic memories of gathering together. Memories of family traditions draw us closer, and we long to re-create them year after year.

This pandemic year, however, will be different. It must be. With the need for gatherings to be more intimate and the hustle and bustle of stores dying down, this season I’d like to propose taking time to teach the art of being intentional.

Just recently, I sat my children down and asked them to consider their Christmas lists carefully this year. I suggested no Amazon surfing or catalog browsing. As they went to make their lists for whom they are making or buying presents, I suggested an emphasis on really praying into what moments you have shared with that person.

What do they truly enjoy? How personal can you be when choosing a gift that speaks to something special between the two of you? Do you know something they need? What makes them really laugh? What do you love about this person? Why do you like spending time with them? Is there something that would enhance that time together? It’s so important to me as a mother and a teacher to form my children to be intentional.

Intentionality stems from sincerity. During this pandemic, I believe we are seeking community and to draw closer to one another relationally. As I choose a gift, I am seeking to know you better, to bless you and to bring you joy. Many of these questions can be asked as we place things on our list for receiving. What truly brings us joy? What brings us peace? What unites us as a family?

As a teacher, I like to activate prior knowledge when I introduce a topic. “What do you already know?” We write it out. Then I ask, “What do you want to know?” And we finish our learning with, “What have we learned?” I carry this practice into my parenting as I teach my family how to love intentionally.

Intentional love is a person-first love. “Intention” means to be deliberate. We think outside our desire to show our love in one specific way and breathe hope into demonstrating our feelings in a vulnerable way. The hope is that both the giver and receiver feel recognized, loved and truly known.

Gifting intentionally requires sacrifice of time, talents and treasure. It requires us to sometimes forgo the shiny and bright and look for the unique and understated. I am reminded of the passage in scripture where Elijah is waiting to hear God. He goes out to the mountaintop as the Lord is going to pass by. A great wind blows, but the Lord was not in the wind. A large earthquake occurs, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. A large fire flares up, but the Lord was not in the fire. After the fire, a gentle breeze is felt. Here Elijah encounters the King of Kings.

I think it is in the still and quiet where intentionality lives. This holiday season, may we step outside of the winds, earthquakes and fires surrounding us and into the peace and joy of a life lived in service and gratitude.
Should I get vaccinated?

MAKING SENSE OF BIOETHICS
Father Tad Pacholczyk
Rev. Tadz computers Pacholczyz, Ph.D., earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did post-doctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, MA, and serves as the Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See www.ncbccenter.org and www.father tard.com.

Are there ethical reasons not to receive vaccines? Certain concerns of conscience arise when cell lines derived from abortions are used in the development and production of vaccines. Vaccines should not be manufactured in this way, and pharmaceutical companies should not make use of these fetal cell lines. The Vatican’s Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith has noted, however, that when vaccines have been produced this way, it is morally permissible to receive them. When equivalent alternative vaccines that don’t rely on such cell lines are available, however, those should clearly be the preferred option.

Why wouldn’t it be wrong to receive a vaccine made from aborted fetal cell lines? No moral evil is committed by those who get inoculated with vaccines made from problematic cell lines; rather those who originally exploited aborted children for their cells, or established pharmaceutical company policies that rely on the abortion-derived cells, commit moral evils. The one receiving the vaccine has no causal connection to these wrongful decisions made previously by others, and the end user cannot be held culpable for their wrongdoing. Even so, the Vatican emphasizes that when we receive vaccines manufactured in this way, we should take steps to register our disagreement and call on pharmaceutical companies to reformulate their vaccines using alternative and ethically acceptable cell sources.

Fortunately, none of the 2020-2021 flu vaccines uses aborted fetal material, a common concern as the winter season draws near. However, even if they did, it would be ethically permissible to receive the vaccine as an end user, as explained.

If a vaccine for COVID-19 becomes available, would we be obliged as Christians and as citizens to take it to defeat the spread of the virus? Each person must evaluate his or her individual situation and make a good prudential judgment regarding the benefit-to-burden ratio when accepting a COVID-19 vaccine. For example, health care workers who have not been exposed to COVID-19 should seriously consider the benefits of getting vaccinated, and their workplace may even require it. The elderly and other vulnerable populations should carefully consider the benefits as well. For younger individuals with very low chances of detrimental outcomes, there may be less urgency, particularly if they do not have any contact with vulnerable populations.

Governments should not compel citizens to accept COVID-19 vaccinations, but rather inform them of the benefits and risks while encouraging them to carefully decide for themselves.

What about the new technologies behind RNA vaccines that have never been used before in humans? The criteria for vaccine safety and efficacy are generally well established and won’t differ fundamentally for a COVID-19 RNA vaccine when compared with other more standard types of vaccines. In light of the various studies that have already been done in animals, and presupposing rigorous human clinical trials, it should soon become clear whether mRNA vaccines are as safe and effective as other vaccines.

These kinds of questions about vaccinations and human health merit attention, as they manifest an important desire for sound scientific information and ethical clarity.

Jesus models the ideal of the servant-king

Even with my usual activity restricted by an ever-worsening pandemic, time has passed quickly for me. The liturgical year is drawing to a close this Sunday with the Feast of Christ the King. Then the new year begins with Advent.

I’ve never warmed up to the image of Christ the King. “King” has too many political overtones. Images of a stern king enthroned and bedecked in robes and a gleaming crown, maybe with one hand grasping a scepter, a symbol of power, have put me off. It seems an odd segue into the celebration of the ongoing Incarnation and the remembrance of Jesus’s birth in poverty.

Kings and kingship have a long history, including the Judeo/Christian tradition. Samuel resisted the people’s desire to have a king. Their reasoning – because everyone else has one – seemed shaky. But a king they got, for a while.

I suppose there have been genuinely good kings (and queens) over the centuries, but the associated trappings of power and wealth are hard to overlook. And they tend to corrupt.

In his lifetime, Jesus resisted the title of king, and when people clamored to make him one, he made himself scarce. Of course, the “kingdom of God” is central to his message. But it is a kingdom unlike any earthly kingdom: there is room for all. It isn’t observable. It’s a work in progress, and the progress depends on the people.

It isn’t about exteriority but what’s in the heart, for that is where the kingdom resides, where the Word is spoken and takes root and grows. The signs of the kingdom are love, service, joy, peace, willingness to suffer for the good of others. God sows this Word-seed in human hearts. It has power to grow and transform every person and through them works to transform the world.

The kingdom is both/and. Already here and yet to come. “Already here” because the Holy One has placed a bit of Divinity in everyone. “Yet to come” because it must grow with cooperation and surrender.

The kingdom is Presence and Possibility. All creation exists in the embrace of the Christ – “The soul is in God and God in the soul, just as the fish is in the sea and the sea in the fish.” (St. Catherine of Siena) All creation, including human beings, is becoming – “Above all, trust in the slow work of God.” (Pierre Teilhard de Chardin)

Jesus modeled the servant-king. He didn’t sit on a throne or live in opulence or control with commands or hang out with those in power. He didn’t have a place to rest his head. He led by example. The poor and marginalized were his companions.

Jesus was a man of both action and prayer. He preached, healed, fed, walked, and sat with others. And when he prayed, he didn’t sit in a privileged place but more likely on a rock in the wilderness.

In our particular time and place in a world ravaged by pandemic and political turmoil, the call is to follow this Servant-King. The power to be wielded is that of love, prayer, and service. Jesus provides the job description in Sunday’s gospel. When he does “sit on his glorious throne,” the criteria for judgment is love in service. Did you feed the hungry and give drink to the thirsty? Did you clothe the naked and visit the prisoners? What did you do to open yourself to love and then give it away?

If I were asked to create an image of Christ the King, it would be of a person busy taking care of others. Ordinary attire would replace robes and thrones. The scepter would be gone and if a hand was free at all, it would hold a shepherd’s staff or maybe food to be given away, a stethoscope, a cooking pot, seeds, a pen, a book, a brush. Whatever one needs to be who they are created to be. To do their work in bringing the kingdom.

Hard lessons of the McCarrick situation

From the day it was announced that the Vatican would conduct an investigation into the career of former Washington cardinal-archbishop Theodore McCarrick (compelled to renounce his cardinalate and subsequently laicized for sexual abuse and the abuse of power), it seemed unlikely that the McCarrick Report would fully please anyone. That intuition hardened as two years passed without any report. During that period, I also came to the view that, whatever the report reported about details, it would not alter the basic outline of this tawdry tale: Theodore McCarrick is a narcissistic, pathological liar; pathological liars fool people; Theodore McCarrick fooled a lot of people.

The McCarrick Report did not, it turns out, please everyone, even as the world press weirdly turned it into an assault on John Paul II. But it certainly underscored that McCarrick was a singularly accomplished deceiver.

Among those he deceived were many highly intelligent people, more than a few holy people, and a lot of the progressive U.S. Catholic world, for whom he was both hero and fundraiser – much as the similarly disgraced Marcial Maciel deceived many traditionally inclined Catholics for decades. There is no safe haven on the spectrum of Catholic opinion where one’s perceptions and judgments are armor-plated against deceivers. For their wickedness is a manifestation of the work of the Great Deceiver, whom St. John described as “deceiver of the whole world” (Revelation 12:9). It would be well to keep this common vulnerability to deception in mind in the future – and as some, alas, try to use the McCarrick Report as ammunition in various internecine Catholic struggles. The shameful story of Theodore McCarrick illustrates more than the demonic power of deception, however. McCarrick’s deceptions operated within a cultural matrix that enabled him to avoid the consequences of his depredations for decades. That dysfunctional culture – a clerical caste system that is a betrayal of the integrity of the priesthood and episcopate – must be confronted and uprooted, as the Church purifies itself of the sin of clerical sexual abuse in order to get on with the mission of evangelization.

Theodore McCarrick knew the clerical caste system from the inside and used it assiduously. He used it, knowing that he would be unwittingly protected by decent men who simply could not imagine a priest or bishop behaving as he did. He used it, knowing the reluctance of seminarians-victims to jeopardize their hopes for priestly ordination by making his repulsive behavior known. He used it, knowing that many bishops deemed public “scandal” more damaging to the Church than sexual predation. He used it, knowing that other clergy were ashamed of how they had strayed and had no stomach for confronting others, even after they had cooperated with God’s grace and returned to integrity of life. He used it, knowing that the New York presbyterate to which he belonged, and the American episcopate he sought (unsuccessfully) to dominate, often functioned as men’s clubs in which one simply did not call out the other members of the club, privately or publicly. He used it, knowing of the Vatican’s reluctance to take disciplinary action against cardinals.

As he gamed the system while climbing the hierarchical ladder, he also deployed his exceptional capacity for self-promotion. He was never really the all-powerful “kingmaker” he was thought to be. But he was quite willing to use that perception (which he cultivated) as protection, just as he used the equally bogus and self-promoting claim that he was some sort of secret Vatican diplomatic agent and was thus protected in Rome – a longstanding, auto-generated myth that the McCarrick Report demolishes, not least in regard to China.

The evangelical answer to the deep reform of the clerical caste system comes from the Lord himself: “If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone … But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the Church” (Matthew 18:15-17). That ethic of fraternal challenge and correction must be inculcated in future priests in seminaries. Bishops must insist upon it with their presbyters, making clear that evangelical, fraternal correction extends to priests challenging the bishop when conscience and the good of the Church demand it.

And that ethic must be lived within the episcopate itself. Without it, “collegiality” is a hollow slogan that enables betrayals of Christ and Christ’s people, whom the pastors are called to protect from the Great Deceiver and his accomplices.

Accountability is important in spiritual growth

One way to start a new habit is to ask a family member or friend to help us with accountability. For example, when someone begins a new fitness routine, reminding and encouraging them to follow through on their commitment can help not only begin but sustain a new habit over the long term.

My fitness students have realized that if they are going to miss classes, they should let me know — as I will follow up with them to make sure they are OK if I don’t hear from them. Generally, they like knowing that I miss them and it helps keep them accountable to their routine.

Maybe you haven’t thought about accountability in your spiritual life, but family members and spiritual friends travel on the journey with us and hopefully encourage us to keep God and the sacraments a priority in our lives. This accountability is important to growing in holiness and truly a gift that other people actively care about the state of our souls.

Accountability can take many forms. For example, my husband and I pray the rosary together a few days a week and we make sure that happens as it is very special to us. We have some relatives who are Catholic, but who are not currently active in their faith, so when we feel prompted by the Holy Spirit, we invite them to Mass and try to lovingly encourage them to renew their commitment to this weekly obligation (and gift!) of the faithful. Weekly Bible study helps keep me accountable to studying scripture.

Parish and diocesan friends are important supporters on our spiritual journey and even small things can help us grow in faith in big ways. For example, I have a friend who has invited me to daily Mass with her at a downtown parish a couple times a month. We enjoy lunch afterward, encourage each other, laugh and pray. The more we get to know each other the more we can help each other stay committed to growing in our faith. Thanks to spiritual friends, I’ve attended retreats, pilgrimages, prayer groups, Christian music concerts, scripture study and more that I would never have experienced. Even if we can be a light to just one person by sharing our faith and encouraging them to grow closer to Jesus, we can make a big impact.

We know that God can use any means to reach us, to move us in a new direction or help us get back on track if we stray from our commitment to Him. He can use the people in our lives to do this. I can’t even count the number of times I have said that God worked through a person to get me to do something, to hear his voice, or to start a new spiritual practice.

So let us pray wholeheartedly for wisdom, listen to the Holy Spirit guiding us, and respond with bold action to help ourselves — and each other — be accountable to what the Church is calling us to do as Catholics. From Thessalonians 5:11, “Therefore encourage one another and build one another up just as you are doing.”

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HOLY AND HEALTHY

Lori Crock

Lori Crock is a parishioner at Plain City St. Joseph Church. Lori leads SoulCore Rosary prayer and exercise at parishes, teaches physically strength classes and writes about faith and fitness at holyandhealthy catholic.com.
Sister says God’s plan leads us to happiness

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

“God has a mission for each of us that leads to happiness,” said Sister John Paul Maher, OP, principal of Worthington St. Michael School. She found that mission in the discovery of her vocation to religious life.

“After graduating from Franciscan University of Steubenville, I knew I was being called to some kind of life that incorporated supporting the mission of the Church, but I wasn’t sure what the next step would be,” said Sister John Paul, a member of the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist. Sisters from her congregation have taught at the school since being invited to come to the Diocese of Columbus by Bishop Frederick Campbell in 2011. The congregation was founded in Ann Arbor, Michigan in 1997.

“As I learned about the Dominican Sisters of Mary’s commitment to respond to Pope St. John Paul II’s call for a New Evangelization and through prayer, I realized God was calling me to religious life in their community,” she said. “Looking back, I realize that the community had not even been founded when I first began praying to be open to God’s will for my life, even if it involved a religious vocation. It was all in God’s providence to answer prayers in His way and in His time.”

Sister John Paul made her final vows as a Dominican Sister of Mary in 2008 and came to Worthington in 2015.

ANSWERING GOD’S CALL

Answering God’s Call profiles the life of a priest, deacon or professed religious sister in the Diocese of Columbus.

“What I love most about St. Michael’s is the wonderful students and a school community that is supportive of our mission of educating and forming students in virtue,” she said. “Parents are appreciative of our approach to educating the whole child.

“The most lasting gift we can give our students is the opportunity for them to see, as I did, that God has a plan for each one of them that will lead to their happiness and that living virtuously will allow them to find that happiness and pass it on to others.”

Sister John Paul is one of five members of her community at St. Michael. Besides their work at the school, they support the Church in the diocese through prayer and by attending events such as the Sacred Heart Congress, the Catholic Women’s Conference and the Marian Dinner for young women considering a vocation to the religious life. The sisters also have been guests on St. Gabriel Catholic Radio and have given talks in which they shared their Education in Virtue approach to living as a disciple of Christ.

Until recently, Worthington was the congregation’s only Ohio location. This year, four Dominican Sisters of Mary began teaching at St. Michael School in Findlay, about 80 miles northwest of Columbus. The congregation has more than 150 sisters from 34 states, as well as Canada, with an average age of 32. It has outgrown its original motherhouse in Ann Arbor and in 2019 opened a priory near Austin, Texas.

The sisters also are expanding an online presence and looking at other new ways of sharing the Gospel, which can be found on their Lumen Ecclesiae digital site at goledigital.org. The site includes podcasts, videos, live streaming and a learning portal, with an emphasis on sharing God’s loving plan for salvation, or the kerygma, at goledigital.org/kerygma.

“We have nothing but gratitude for the people who have supported us in the years we’ve been at St. Michael,” Sister John Paul said. “We’re thrilled at the growth and focus on evangelization happening in the diocese, encouraged by Bishop (Robert) Brennan.”

The Dominican Sisters of Mary offer vocation discernment retreats three times a year. To learn more or to talk with a sister about discernment, visit www.sistersofmary.org or email vocations@sisterofmary.org.

By Dana Giddens

Is it possible that Jesus is with us on earth? I would argue that Our Lord is always among those who are suffering because the journey to the foot of the cross is revealed through suffering. Even more beautiful is that we can console those who suffer, as did John and Mary Magdalene when they stood at the foot of the cross with the Blessed Mother of God. Anyone, at any time, may sit at the foot of the cross and be in the presence of Jesus.

One day, while I was listening to St. Gabriel Radio, a priest said, “Jesus is always with those who are suffering. He understands suffering.” After hearing this, I thought: Who better to understand suffering than Our Lord?

Being of melancholic temperament and longing to be drawn into the lives of people who are sad, I had an epiphany a few days later while visiting my delicate mother, who is in anguish with aphasia and dementia.

I watched her with great love as she sat on the edge of her sofa, looking for something in her purse. Her eyes were filled with wonder as she opened and closed her wallet several times, unaware that I was watching. Her tiny feet were positioned like a little girl’s sitting on a swing. Tears filled my eyes as she seemed so vulnerable and fragile. Yet her whole being transcended the mere reality of what she was doing because she was not alone.

This once intrinsically stunning woman was carrying her cross. Without full knowledge of the truth, the stroke she suffered many years ago, coupled with the natural aging process, transformed her from a cynical adult to a little girl learning how to speak and reason. It was apparent that the abstract innocence of a child that pulls so tenderly on my heartstrings had enveloped a woman I never really understood until now.

My eyes absorbed a tender moment, and I was drawn to the foot of the cross. Suddenly, the parables from the Gospel came to life, and sitting with my mother was Jesus. This was my moment to sit at the foot of the cross and quietly observe what Pope John Paul II described as “the certainty that God saves man ... through His Cross.”

As I contemplated how He does this, there was a distinct sensation of His presence and the gift of these long seconds. Sadness enslaved me because she is mentally distant now. Anxiety shackled me because she is alone and afraid without her husband. Sorrow pierced my heart knowing she is mocked and humiliated by bystanders as she attempts to navigate the simple task of grocery shopping. Curiously, the chains that bind me to the conditions bestowed upon her by God, to sanctify her soul as He prepares to bring her home, reveal the truth.

The choice to avoid the suffering of another human being because it is uncomfortable has become a way of life for many. But if we choose to sit at the foot of the cross, abandoning all the things we feel are more important and preclude us from accepting the truth, Jesus will be with us.
Ten permanent deacons were ordained for the Diocese of Columbus by Bishop Robert Brennan on Saturday, Nov. 7 at Westerville St. Paul the Apostle Church.

The ordination of Deacons Daniel Dowler, James Elchert, Jesus Figueroa Jr., Jeffrey Hurdley, Nicholas Klear, Victor Nduaguba, Mark O’Loughlin, Christopher Walsh, Eric Wright and Douglas Yglesias completes four years of training in the diocese’s Diaconate School of Theology. It gives the diocese a total of 120 permanent deacons, two of whom are serving outside the diocese and 39 of whom are retired, plus three men who were ordained as deacons and are preparing for ordination to the priesthood.

The newly ordained deacons have been assigned to the following parishes: Deacon Dowler, Columbus St. Andrew; Deacon Elchert, Powell St. Joan of Arc; Deacon Figueroa, Columbus St. Mary Magdalene; Deacon Hurdley, Lancaster St. Mark; Deacon Klear, Ada Our Lady of Lourdes and Kenton Immaculate Conception; Deacon Nduaguba, Columbus St. Timothy; Deacon O’Loughlin, Columbus St. Cecilia; Deacon Walsh, Gahanna St. Matthew the Apostle; Deacon Wright, Newark St. Francis de Sales; and Deacon Yglesias, Hilliard St. Brendan the Navigator.

About 300 family members and friends were in attendance at the ordination. The church holds about 1,600 people, but the size of the congregation was limited because of safe-distance requirements caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

The new deacons are the first permanent deacons to be ordained for the diocese since 2016. They were accompanied by their wives as they took seats in the congregation during the opening procession.

The rite of ordination began after the Gospel reading and before the homily, with Bishop Brennan calling the men forward to stand before him. Deacon Frank Iannarino, director of the diocesan Office of the Diaconate, declared them ready for service, and the bishop accepted them as candidates for the diaconate. He then delivered his homily.

In the homily, Bishop Brennan noted that Pope Francis’ recent encyclical Fratelli Tutti places before us the parable of the Good Samaritan and says that “sooner or later, we will all encounter a person who is suffering. Today there are more and more of them.”

He told the deacon candidates, “Today you become sacramental images of the Good Samaritan, given the mandate and the grace in a particular way to bend to touch and heal the wounds of others, the wounds of the world.

“The world is in tumult in so many ways,” the bishop said. “The world is wounded deeply. You are sent into that world – not a world of our own construct or wishful thinking, but a world in need of healing.

“Like the Good Samaritan and like the risen Lord himself, we must be honest about the wounds precisely to be effective ministers of healing and conciliation. Charting the path of Christ in his church, we must be unwavering in our call for the respect and dignity of every human person at every stage of life.

“As deacons,” Bishop Brennan said to the candidates, “you will walk with God’s people – standing in their midst and listening deeply. Listen attentive-ly and lovingly and seek always to

By Tim Puet
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See DEACONS, Page 21
The Jubilee Museum, which houses the nation’s largest collection of diversified Catholic artwork, will be moving in 2021 from its original location at the former Holy Family School in Columbus’ Franklinton neighborhood to the building housing The Catholic Foundation at 257 E. Broad St. in downtown Columbus, across from St. Joseph Cathedral.

“We’re hoping the move can be completed by Easter,” said museum director Shawn Kenney. “The museum will take up most of the foundation building’s first floor. Remodeling is set to start in the first week of January.”

The building is best known as the location of the original Wendy’s restaurant. It was built in the 1940s to house the Bill Kay Oldsmobile dealership and became Tommy Henrich’s Steak House from 1961 to 1968. Businessman Len Immke took over the space in 1969 and was using it to prepare cars for his Buick dealership nearby when he allowed his friend, Wendy’s founder Dave Thomas, to take over the space for the first of Wendy’s nearly 7,000 locations worldwide.

“We’re very excited about the opportunity to be the museum’s new home,” said Loren Brown, the Foundation’s president and chief executive officer, who also said work needs to be completed on an agreement between the foundation and the Diocese of Columbus concerning use of the proposed museum space.

“The relocation will unite the Catholic history represented by the museum’s holdings with the work the Foundation is doing to help ensure the future of the Catholic Church in central and southern Ohio through planned giving and charitable fund management,” he said.

“It will give the faithful a chance to see that history and combine it with the opportunity to visit related sites on East Broad Street such as the Cathedral, the Washington Gladden Social Justice Park, and the Columbus Museum of Art, plus nearby attractions in the city’s Discovery District including the Columbus College of Art and Design, the Columbus Metropolitan Library and Topiary Park.”

Brown said having all the museum’s exhibits on one floor will make them well-suited for accessibility to the disabled. The current museum is not accessible and has exhibits spread over two floors.

The exhibits will cover about 4,100 square feet in the foundation building. Work on converting the site will be in charge of David Meleca of the Moody Nolan architectural firm. Meleca, while operating his own firm, also led the makeover that occurred when the Foundation took over the Wendy’s site. He also is noted for his church architecture in the diocese and nationwide. He was the architect for Westerville St. Paul Church, which is the largest church building in the diocese, and for renovation of several diocesan churches.

The idea to move the museum to the Foundation’s building stems from a visit Brown made in 2018 to the Archdiocese of Santa Fe, New Mexico’s museum, which is located in an adobe building dating to the 1830s. The Archdiocese and the Diocese of Columbus have a historical connection because the Archdiocese’s first bishop, Jean-Baptiste Lamy, was the first resident pastor of Danville St. Luke and Newark St. Vincent de Paul churches before being sent to New Mexico by Pope Pius IX in 1850.

“The Santa Fe museum is much smaller than the Jubilee Museum, but it’s very well-done when it comes to the quality of its items and the way they’re displayed,” Brown said. “Scott Hartman of the Foundation is on the museum’s board of directors. I told him it would be great to experience something like that here, and he brought it up to the board this summer.”

“The Foundation offered the space, and the board quickly accepted,” Kenney said. “We realized that this was quite an offer and that it would fulfill all our needs, not just by allowing us to display items better but by providing adequate space for offices, storage and rest rooms. Being able to show items properly will enable us to focus on being a museum.”

The relocation will require Kenney and other museum staff members to decide what to keep and what to dis-
Thanksgiving meals to be distributed despite pandemic

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

Safe-distancing restrictions related to the coronavirus pandemic mean churches won’t host sit-down Thanksgiving dinners this year, but many parishes plan to distribute food to the needy for the holiday through other methods.

Catholic Social Services (CSS), the site of Thanksgiving Day dinners for residents of the city’s Hilltop neighborhood for about 50 years, will be packing 500 to 600 food baskets and distributing them for takeout at its family center at 2165 W. Broad St. from noon to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 26, said Sandy Bonneville, who has coordinated the event for 21 years. She also said masks will be available for anyone who asks.

“I wasn’t sure until recently if we were going to have a dinner this year,” she said. “Around September, the usual kitchen crew opted out, and the Catholic Social Services volunteers who distributed food to the home-bound did the same because of concerns about the virus.

“I prayed and wrestled with the decision of whether to keep going, especially because more people than ever are in need because of the virus. The dinner has been around for so long as a way for people to sit down and break bread together that it would be hard to give up. I didn’t have to cancel because a new group of volunteers stepped forward.

“We’ll only be using the kitchen and hallway in the parish center and are not going into the dining area in the school building, so we’ll only need eight volunteers to prepare the meals on Wednesday night and eight to 10 on Thursday to distribute them,” Bonneville said. In recent years, about 50 volunteers have assisted at the dinners, which included musical entertainment.

About 125 dinners will be taken to homeless camps near Columbus Holy Family Church. Another 50 will go to the Murray Commons apartments for senior citizens on the city’s west side, and about 20 will be sent to a complex for seniors in Whitehall.

Give to those in need this Christmas

People need your help. They need the basics: food, clothing, and household items. Without your help, many children will go without Christmas gifts this year. Can you make room in your life for our neighbors in need? If you can help, support our diocesan-sponsored organizations or your parish and community ministries. If you need help, please give them a call.

Catholic Social Services (CSS)
197 E. Gay St., Columbus OH 43215. Phone (614) 221-5891. Website www.colsccs.org.

For 75 years, Catholic Social Services (CSS) has been serving families and senior citizens in central and southern Ohio. CSS helps working-poor families stabilize and become self-sufficient through case management, training, and emergency assistance. It helps low-income seniors age with grace and independence through supportive services and community-impact opportunities.

The COVID-19 pandemic created an environment the agency never thought would happen. Churches were closed, schools shut their doors, sports events were canceled, people were asked to stay home and businesses were closed in an effort to stop the virus from spreading.

Soon, the term “new normal” began to circulate, even though there was very little normal about the situation. Everyone did their best to adjust to this new way of life, but for those below the poverty line, there was no adjusting. There were only more challenges to face as they tried to keep their heads above water.

Needed items: Because of the great need of CSS clients and in order to keep everyone safe, the agency this year is asking for Walmart or Kroger gift cards in denominations of $10, $20, $25 or $50. Cards may be mailed directly to Catholic Social Services, in care of Julie Naporano, 197 E. Gay St., Columbus OH 43215 by Monday, Dec. 7. For questions, contact jnaporano@colsscs.org.

JOIN (Joint Organization for Inner-City Needs)
578 E. Main St., Columbus OH 43215. Phone: (614) 241-2530. Website: www.columbuscatholic.org/join.

JOIN responds to people in need with emergency material assistance, serving nearly 70 families each day with almost every problem imaginable, from birth to death.

Needed items: Gas gift cards, food gift cards, gift cards for teenagers (from department stores such as Target and Meijer, bookstores, or stores selling music, games, and movies), basic hygiene items, cleaning supplies and monetary donations.

St. Francis Center
108 W. Mill St., McArthur OH 45651. Phone: (740) 596-5820. Website: www.facebook.com/StFrancisOutreachCenter.

The center serves as a Catholic presence in the southeastern part of the Diocese of Columbus, assisting impoverished families in meeting their most basic needs of food and clothing.

Needed items: Food pantry staples, new toys, clothing, gift cards for teenagers (from department stores such as Target and Meijer, bookstores, or stores selling music, games, and movies) and monetary donations. Volunteers are needed to help pack food and toys on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 12 and 13.

About 30 turkeys are being donated by the Fry Out Cancer organization at Ohio State University’s Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital, where Bonneville’s son, Rusty, a longtime volunteer at the dinner, is a researcher. Others are coming from individual donors.

“You have to be optimistic and very flexible to put a dinner together at a time like this,” Sandy Bonneville said. “Things are being stored everywhere. There’s green beans in my dining room refrigerator, pies in the freezer at (Columbus) St. Mary Magdalene Church, and other things in a big storage room here at St. Al’s. What’s important is that people are determined to pull this off. Food and faith are connected. I’m glad I didn’t cancel the meal, because God directed this to happen.”

Several other parishes throughout the Diocese of Columbus also will share their blessings with others during the Thanksgiving season.

The Community Kitchen at the St. John Community Center, 640 S. Ohio Ave., next to Columbus Holy Rosary-St. John Church, won’t be

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See WISH LIST, Page 13
serving dinner on-site but will pro-
vide takeout meals from 11 a.m. to
1 p.m. Thanksgiving Day, said MJ
Muldrow of the center staff. It also
will be serving Thanksgiving meals
to go on Wednesday, Nov. 25 from 10:30
a.m. to noon at the other Commu-
nity Kitchen location, Columbus St.
Dominic Church, 453 N. 20th St.

Many of the turkeys for the din-
ers will come from the 23rd annual
“Bring a Turkey to Church” weekend at
Westerville St. Paul Church, 313
N. State St., which will take place on
Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 21 and 22.

The Church of the Resurrection
in New Albany, 6300 E. Dublin-Gran-
ville Road, also is collecting turkeys
on Nov. 21 and 22 outside its ministry
center, where a large truck to receive
the items will be parked. The program
is in its 13th year. Last year, it col-
lected 461 frozen turkeys and nearly
$5,900.

The Joint Organization for In-
ner-City Needs, a diocesan agency
at 578 E. Main St., Columbus, which
serves the city and Franklin County,
will receive 500 boxes of food from
the Byron Saunders Foundation, a
central Ohio organization that pro-
vides Thanksgiving meals annually
to more than 3,000 families in need.
Grocery cards for $15 will be includ-
ed in the boxes. Families must make
an appointment to receive a box.

Members of Knights of Colum-
bus Council 5297 at Circleville St.
Joseph Church, 134 W. Mound St.,
have collected nonperishable food for
distribution to needy families in the
community.

Parishioners of Columbus St. Mat-
thias Church, 1582 Ferris Road, are
bring nonperishable food to Mass-
es during the two weekends leading to
Thanksgiving and the weekend after
the holiday. Those items will be com-
bined with similar gifts from students
of Columbus St. Francis DeSales
High School, which is next door to the
center. The food is being donated
to St. Stephen’s Community House.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society
of Logan St. John Church, 351 N.
Market St., will distribute Thanksgiv-
ing baskets including turkey and oth-
er food to the needy from 6 to 7 p.m.
Monday, Nov. 23.

Sunbury St. John Neumann
Church, 9633 E. State Route 137,
is part of a Christmas box drive spon-
sored by Big Walnut Friends Who
Share, an outreach organization of
churches in the Sunbury and Galena
areas. The parish St. Vincent de Paul
Society and Knights of Columbus
Council 1458 are collecting tubs of
cake frosting and 40-ounce cans of
sweet potatoes for a Christmas meal
that includes a ham. Other churches in
the organization are collecting other
items for the meal.

Anyone attending the church’s
Thanksgiving Vigil Mass at 7 p.m.
Nov. 25 is asked to bring canned or
boxed foods for the Friends Who
Share pantry. The parish also is col-
collecting personal-care items and new
men’s and women’s clothing (sizes L
to XXL) for Veterans Affairs hospi-
tal patients on Saturday and Sunday,
Nov. 28 and 29.

West Jefferson Sts. Simon and
Jude Church, 9350 High Free Pike,
is putting together about 150 contain-
ers of instant mashed potatoes, gravy
and stuffing and collecting monetary
donations for meat for the communi-
ty’s Good Samaritan Food Pantry.
The pantry at Columbus St. James
the Less Church, 1652 Oakland Park
Ave., will be distributing more than
400 two-box food baskets for Thank-
giving.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society
of Columbus Holy Spirit Church, 4383
E. Broad St., is hosting a drive-thru
turkey and holiday meal on Sunday afternoon,
Dec. 6. It will include turkey, dress-
ing, mashed potatoes and other items.
Families also will receive a bag of
personal-care items, including person-
al-hygiene items, household goods,
hats, gloves and socks, plus cards for
gifts and groceries. Bags will be dis-
tributed to families who cannot come
to church.

Zoar Holy Trinity Church, 1835
Dover-Zoar Road N.E., in cooperation
with the Tuscarawas Valley Ministeri-
al Association, will distribute dinners
on Nov. 22 to homes, workplaces, do-
meric violence shelters, firehouses
and hospices. The dinners will be pre-
pared at the church and will include
turkey, gravy, mashed potatoes, dress-
ning, cranberry salad and pie.

The athletic association of New
Lexington St. Rose School, 119 W.
Water St., is sponsoring its annual
Turkey Trot 5-kilometer run or walk
at 9 a.m. Nov. 26 in the school parking
lot. Registration is $25 on the day of
the race.

Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas
Church, 144 N. 5th St., will collect
donations for its pantry at Masses on
the weekend of Nov. 21 and 22 and
in its office from Nov. 23 to 25. It
usually asks for food to be brought
to its 8 a.m. Mass on Thanksgiving,
but because the church is being reno-
ved, its weekday Masses are being
celebrated at Zanesville St. Nicholas
Church.

WISH LIST, continued from Page 12
being requested from area schools,
churches and businesses.

You and your business or organiza-
tion can become partners in this ef-
fort by conducting nonperishable food
items or providing financial support
for the purchase of perishable items.
As a result of the increasing need, St.
Stephen’s would like to have all dona-
tions by Friday, Dec. 4. Because it has
a small staff, St. Stephen’s is able to
pick up bulk large items.

Pickups will be made through Dec.
4. For pickup, call (614) 294-6347,
extension 136 and ask for Amy Kerns.
She will arrange bulk pickup of items,
depending on staff and vehicle avail-
ability.

Needed items: Nonperishable
food items (canned, boxed, bottled or
dried goods) or financial support for
purchase of perishable items such as
turkeys, bread, milk, fresh fruit and
vegetables. For pickup of large bulk
items, contact Kerns at (614) 294-
6347, extension 136.

Donations needed: Cash or check
donations also are needed. Checks
may be mailed to St. Stephen’s Com-
munity House, Attention: Devel-
opment Department, 1500 E. 17th
Ave., Columbus OH 43219. Indicate
“Christmas” in the memo line. Do-
nate online by visiting www.saintstep-
enschs.org/donate.

St. Vincent Family Center
1490 E. Main St., Columbus, OH
43205. Phone: (614) 252-0731 Web-
site: www.svfc.org.

The St. Vincent Family Center
serves thousands of children and fam-
ilies living in the most disadvantaged
neighborhoods in central Ohio. Each
Christmas season, many of these fam-
ilies are unable to provide their little
ones with gifts and memories that make
this time of year so special. This
year, the need is greater than ever.

Adopt A Family: Because of con-
consideration for health and safety, the
St. Vincent Family Center will be
conducting its annual Adopt-A-Fam-
ily program exclusively online. If you
would like to adopt a child in need
during this holiday season, the center
is accepting financial gifts online at
https://bit.ly/38KQKV. Your dona-
tion will be used to purchase holiday
gifts for children and families served
by the center.

If you are interested in learning
more about supporting the center or
have questions about holiday giving,
contact Sara Russell at srussell@svfc.
org or (614) 805-0606.

St. Vincent Family Center
1490 E. Main St., Columbus, OH
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by the center.

If you are interested in learning
more about supporting the center or
have questions about holiday giving,
contact Sara Russell at srussell@svfc.
org or (614) 805-0606.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Main office: 197 E. Gay St., Colum
bus, OH 43215. Phone: (614) 221-
3554. Website: www.svdpdolumbus.
org.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul
provides food, clothing, housing, and
spiritual support to people in need.
It operates in parishes across the di-
ocese, many of them with food pan-
ties, and sponsors a daily lunch line
at St. Lawrence Haven in Columbus, a
clothing center in Columbus, a shelter
and transitional housing in Newark,
thrift stores in Columbus, Lancaster,
Newark and Marion, and many other
ministries.

Needed items: Food, clothing (es-
pically men’s hats, gloves, socks,
underwear, and coats for adults and
children) and new, unwrapped gifts,
wrapping paper, bows, and volunteers
for the St. Vincent de Paul Clothing
Center’s Christmas store at 578 E.
Main St., Columbus. Volunteers are
needed at St. Lawrence Haven during
preparation times (10 a.m. to noon).
Monetary donations are appreciated.

Catholic Charities
Christmas Collection

This annual collection allows the
diocese to meet a variety of basic
needs directly and through diocesan
agencies and organizations, including
those listed above. You can help share
in this important work by generously
supporting the Catholic Charities col-
lection this year. Look for the enve-
lope in your parish envelope packet
for December.

Diocesan Office for Social Concerns
197 E. Gay St., Columbus, OH
43215. Phone: (614) 241-2540. Email
address: socmailbox@columbuscath-
olic.org. Website: www.columbuscath-
colic.org/social-concerns-office.

The Office for Social Concerns
serves as the central diocesan resourc
e for Catholic social teaching, reaching
out through prayer, education, ser-
vice and advocacy. Learn more about
church teachings on social issues. Put
your faith in action to make a differ-
ence in your community and around
the world.
Advent activities, Christmas Masses planned at parishes

Schedules for Advent activities and Christmas Masses at parishes in the Diocese of Columbus have been considerably changed this year because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The following is a list of planned Advent activities and Christmas Mass times throughout the diocese, as supplied by parishes to The Catholic Times.

At parishes where reservations are required, go to the parish website or call the parish office for details. Many parishes in addition to those listed might be livestreaming Christmas Masses. Check parish websites for information.

This information is current as of Nov. 15 and might be changed because of possible government orders related to the pandemic. Many parishes still are making plans for the season. An updated list will be published in subsequent issues of the Times.

Buckeye Lake Our Lady of Mount Carmel – Eucharistic Adoration, Sundays, Nov. 29 and Dec. 6, 13 and 20, 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.; Christmas Masses, 6 p.m. and midnight Thursday, Dec. 24; 9 a.m. Friday, Dec. 25. Reservations required for all Christmas Masses.

Columbus Corpus Christi – Rosary Altar Society curbside collection of toiletry items, diapers and home cleaning items, 1 to 2 p.m. Sundays, Dec. 6, 13 and 20 and Jan. 3 and 10. Christmas Masses, 6 p.m. Dec. 24; 9 a.m. Dec. 25, both first come-first served until church is filled to permitted capacity.

Columbus Holy Name – Christmas Masses, 5:30 p.m. Dec. 24; 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Dec. 25.

Columbus St. Agatha – Christmas Masses, 4, 6 and 10 p.m. Dec. 24; 10 a.m. Dec. 25. Reservations required for all Masses. Parish hopes to livestream the 4 p.m. Dec. 24 Mass on its YouTube channel.

Columbus St. Catharine – Christmas Masses, 4 and 6:30 p.m. and midnight Dec. 24; 11 a.m. Dec. 25. All Masses will be livestreamed to the parish center and the lower level of the church building. The 4 and 6:30 p.m. Dec. 24 Masses will be livestreamed on parish YouTube and Facebook pages.

Columbus St. Elizabeth – Parish Giving Tree benefits St. Vincent Family Center. Parishioners are packing Christmas bags for parish food pantry and for distribution in city’s Franklinton neighborhood on Saturday mornings. Christmas Masses, 4 and 7 p.m. Dec. 24; 10 a.m. Dec. 25, all livestreamed.

Columbus St. Francis of Assisi – Christmas Masses, 5 p.m. Dec. 24; 10 a.m. Dec. 25.

Columbus St. James the Less – Christmas Masses, 4:30 p.m. (English), 7 p.m. (Spanish) and 10 p.m. (English) Dec. 24; 9 a.m. (English) and 11 a.m. (Spanish) Dec. 25. Masses will be livestreamed to other sites on the property if needed and online.

Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral – Solemn Vespers, featuring the treble voices of the cathedral choir, Sundays, Nov. 29 and Dec. 6, 13 and 20, 4:45 to 5:45 p.m. Lessons and carols concert, Sunday, Dec. 6, 3 p.m. Christmas Masses, 4 and 6:30 p.m. and midnight (music 11 p.m.) Dec. 24; 10:30 a.m. Dec. 25.

Columbus St. Ladislas – Dropoff of winter clothing to benefit St. Vincent de Paul Store, 10 to 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 22. Christmas Masses, 4 p.m. Dec. 24; 9 a.m. Dec. 25, both first come-first served until church is filled to permitted capacity.

Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona – Sung Vespers and Benediction, Thursdays, Dec. 3, 10 and 17, 7 p.m. Christmas Masses, 4 and 10 p.m. Dec. 24; 10:30 a.m. Dec. 25. 4 p.m. Mass will be livestreamed to Kulp Hall and parish website.

Columbus St. Patrick – Christmas Masses, 4, 6 and 8 p.m. and midnight Dec. 24; 7, 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Dec. 25. Overflow Masses in parish hall as needed.

Delaware St. Mary – Christmas Masses, 4 p.m. (synchronous Masses in church and school gym), 6 and 9 p.m. and midnight Dec. 24; 9 and 11:30 a.m. (both English) and 2 p.m. (Spanish) Dec. 25. Masses in church at 4 p.m. and midnight Dec. 24 and 9 a.m. Dec. 25 will be livestreamed.

Dennison Immaculate Conception – Christmas Masses, 5 and 10 p.m. Dec. 24; 9 a.m. Dec. 25.

Dresden St. Ann and Mattingly Settlement St. Mary – Parish mission with Father Stephen Dominic Hayes, OP, Monday to Wednesday, Dec. 14 to 16 at Mattingly Settlement, with Rosary at 6:40 p.m. and talk at 7. Theme: “Christ Born for Our Lady and for Us.” Also livestreamed at YouTube.com/stmarymattinglysettlement. Christmas Masses, 4:30 (Mattingly Settlement) and 7 p.m. (Dresden) Dec. 24; 9 a.m. (Dresden) Dec. 25.

Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare – Christmas Masses, 6:30 and 9 p.m. Dec. 9 and 11 a.m. Dec. 25. Some Masses will be livestreamed to Hendricks Hall and parish gym and on parish YouTube channel. Reservations required for Masses at all on-site locations; parish will begin taking reservations at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 1. Parish also will have daily Masses during the Octave of Christmas, from Saturday, Dec. 26 to Thursday, Dec. 31.

Heath St. Leonard – Christmas Masses, 4 and 9 p.m. Dec. 24; 10 a.m. Dec. 25. Reservations required for all Christmas Masses.

Hilliard St. Brendan the Navigator – Christmas Masses, 4 and 6:30 p.m. (synchronous Masses in church and multipurpose room) and 10 p.m. Dec. 24; 8:45 and 10:45 a.m. Dec. 25. Reservations required for all 4 and 6:30 p.m. Masses Dec. 24.

Kenton Immaculate Conception – Parish has Giving Tree to collect gifts for needy children and is putting together Boxes of Joy for Cross Catholic Outreach. Christmas Masses, 8 p.m. Dec. 24; 9 a.m. Dec. 25. Dec. 24 Mass will be livestreamed.

Laurel St. Mark – Parish social concerns committee is providing Thanksgiving gifts and holiday fruit baskets for residents of Seton Square Lancaster and Giving Tree for needy area families. Christmas Masses, 5 and 8 p.m. Dec. 24 and 9 a.m. Dec. 25. 9 a.m. Mass will be livestreamed.

Lancaster St. Mary – Christmas Masses, 4, 6, 8 and 10 p.m. Dec. 24; 8 and 10 a.m. Dec. 25. Reservations will be taken beginning Tuesday, Dec. 1.

London St. Patrick – Christmas Masses, 4 and 6 p.m. and midnight Dec. 24; 10:30 a.m. Dec. 25.

New Albany Church of the Resurrection – Advent Rosary and reflections, Thursdays, Dec. 3, 10 and 17, 11 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration, Sunday, Dec. 20, from end of 11 a.m. Mass to 5:45 p.m., closing with Benediction. Christmas Masses, 4 p.m. (social hall), 4:30, 7:30 and 10 p.m. Dec. 24; 9 and 11 a.m. Dec. 25. Reservations required for all Christmas Masses.

New Philadelphia Sacred Heart – Christmas Masses, 5 and 8 p.m. Dec. 24; 8:30 a.m. Dec. 25.

Pickerington St. Elizabeth Ann Seton – 4 p.m. (synchronous Masses in church and activity center), 6:30 and 11 p.m. Dec. 24; 9:30 a.m. Dec. 25.

Powell St. Joan of Arc – Christmas Masses, 4 and 6:30 p.m. (synchronous Masses in church and social hall) and 8:30 and 10:30 p.m. (church only, livestreamed to social hall) Dec. 24; 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. (church only, livestreamed to social hall) Dec. 25. All Masses in church will be livestreamed to parish website, Facebook and YouTube.

Reynoldsburg St. Pius X – Parish mission with Dan DeMatte of Damascus Catholic Mission Campus, Sunday to Tuesday, Nov. 29 to Dec. 1, 7 p.m. Theme: “Be Healed, Be Empowered, Be Transformed.” Christmas Masses, 4, 6:30 and 9 p.m. Dec. 24; 9 a.m. Dec. 25. First two Dec. 24 Masses will be livestreamed to parish center and possibly to school gym and cafeteria. Other Masses might be livestreamed if necessary.

Sugar Grove St. Joseph – Christmas Masses, 4:30 and 8 p.m. Dec. 24; 9 a.m. Dec. 25.

Sunbury St. John Neumann – Giving Tree will benefit Columbus Holy Rosary-St. John Church. Commission service, 7:45 to 8:30 p.m. Dec. 24. Christmas Masses, 4, 6:30 and 10 p.m. and midnight Dec. 24; 8 and 10 a.m. Dec. 25. Reservations required. Midnight and 10 a.m. Masses will include incense. All Masses will be livestreamed to chapel, Faith and Family Center and classrooms, and via 89.5 FM to cars in parking lot.

Washington Court House St. Colman of Cloyne – Christmas Masses, 4 and 6:30 p.m. and midnight Dec. 24; 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Dec. 25. Reservations required. No reservations taken before Monday, Dec. 21.


Westerville St. Paul – Christmas Masses, 4 and 6 p.m. (synchronous Masses in church and Klinger Center) and 8 and 10 p.m. and midnight Dec. 24; 8 and 10 a.m. and noon Dec. 25. Reservations required for all Christmas Masses.

Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas – Christmas Masses, 5 and 10 p.m. Dec. 24, 9 and 11 a.m. Dec. 25, all in activity center. Church is undergoing repairs.

Zoar Holy Trinity – Christmas Masses, 6 p.m. Dec. 24; 10 a.m. Dec. 25, both available on livestream.
The following is an updated list of parishes in the diocease where Eucharistic Adoration is taking place, as supplied by parishes to The Catholic Times. The information is current as of Nov. 15. Adoration times might be changed or Adoration might be canceled because of possible government orders related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Bremen St. Mary** – First Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

**Bridgefittie Sisters (Order of the Most Holy Savior of St. Bridget of Sweden)** conven, 40 N. Grubb St., Columbus – Tuesdays, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

**Buckeye Lake Our Lady of Mount Carmel** – Sundays of Advent, 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.

**Columbus Holy Family** – 1 p.m. Thursdays to noon Fridays; First Fridays, 8 p.m. Fridays to 8:45 a.m. Saturdays.

**Columbus St. Elizabeth** – Tuesdays, 5 to 6 p.m.

**Columbus St. James the Less** – First Wednesdays, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. (English); second Tuesdays, 7 to 8 p.m. (Spanish).

**Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral** – Tuesdays, 4 to 9 p.m.

**Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona** – Thursdays, 9 a.m. to noon (church open until 8 p.m.); sung Vespers and Benediction, Thursdays, Dec. 3, 10 and 17, 7 p.m.

**Columbus St. Patrick** – Fridays, 12:15 to 1:15 p.m.; third and fourth Fridays, 8 p.m. Friday to 7 a.m. Saturday (church locked; call church office at (614) 224-9522 for access information).

**Columbus St. Peter** – Tuesdays, 6 to 7 p.m.; First Fridays, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**Lancaster St. Bernadette** – Wednesdays, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Thursdays, 7 a.m. to midnight.

**Lancaster St. Mark** – Mondays, 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Tuesdays, 8:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.

**London St. Patrick** – Thursdays, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.; First Fridays, 3 to 5:15 p.m., concluding with Benediction.

**New Lexington St. Rose** – Wednesdays, 5:15 to 6:15 p.m., concluding with Benediction.

**New Philadelphia Sacred Heart** – Tuesdays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Powell St. Joan of Arc** – 9 a.m. Mondays to 8 a.m. Saturdays in chapel. For information on accessibility when chapel is not open, call or email Anne at (319) 321-3966 or adoration@stjoanofarcowell.org. To sign up, go to stjoanofarcowell.org.

**Reynoldsburg St. Pius X** – Wednesdays, 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., with Holy Hour from noon to 1 p.m.

**Sugar Grove St. Joseph** – Thursdays, from end of noon Mass to 1:30 p.m.

**Sunbury St. John Neumann** – 1 p.m. Tuesdays to 4 p.m. Fridays in chapel, which is locked from 9 a.m. to 9 a.m. daily. To visit during those hours, contact Amy Davis at amymdavis@hotmail.com.

**Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas** – Wednesdays, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., with Blessed Sacrament in a repository in Father Jan Sullivan’s office window, allowing adorers to park or stand in front of the building. Church is undergoing repair.

**Zoar Holy Trinity** – Wednesdays, 7 to 8 p.m.

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**Catholic Social Services agencies need your help**

The holidays are right around the corner. This year, the need is greater than ever, but one way you can make a difference is by donating to programs supported by Catholic Social Services (CSS).

Consider purchasing to support clients of the CSS Our Lady of Guadalupe Center on Columbus’ west side, the St. Francis Center, and low-income seniors in Licking County.

The Our Lady of Guadalupe Center at 409 Industry Drive is asking for donations of new pots and pans, kitchen utensils, kitchen towels, winter boots and winter gloves of all sizes, and Kroger or Walmart gift cards. Call (614) 340-7061 to schedule a drop-off by Monday, Nov. 30.

The St. Francis Outreach Center is asking for new winter boots and winter gloves of all sizes, children’s MUSEUM, continued from Page 11 card. “We have five full pipe organs and parts for several others,” Kenney said. “We’re only going to take one organ to the new museum. We also have 14,000 books, about 600 Nativity sets, and plenty of small statues, prints, and other items people have generously donated over the years.”

There won’t be room for many of those items in the new location, so like many others who have to downsize, Kenney is planning the equivalent of a garage sale. “We’ll be making items available to the public very soon,” he said.

Kenney, who began volunteering at the museum 16 years ago, joined its staff in 2013 and has been director since 2016, said no price tags would be placed on items the museum makes available, “but we would expect a fair donation to be made.”

He said artifacts of note that will be going to the new museum site include a chalice with an amethyst worn by Mary Queen of Scots; the federal land grant given to Ohio’s pioneer Catholic family, the Dittoe family of Somerset, and signed by Thomas Jefferson and James Madison; a roomful of dolls dressed in the habits of various congregations of religious sisters; about 300 first-class relics of saints; and many oil paintings, vestments, and altars.

The museum will continue to show items from its collection on a rotating basis and to house traveling exhibitions. One of its most popular exhibits was a replica of the Vatican made of 500,000 Lego blocks put together by Father Bob Simon of eastern Pennsylvania and housed at the museum from June to October in 2018.

“We’re planning a Lego exhibit centered on a church being built in her dining room by Andrea Plymale, a central Ohio resident, and including an organ, tower and candles,” Kenney said. “We’re also considering a Lego workshop which would offer people a chance to build Lego models of Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, St. Peter’s Basilica or other famous Catholic sites and to take part in a competition.”

He also said that starting on Nov. 29, the First Sunday of Advent, the museum would display a different Nativity set in its Facebook page during each day of the Advent season.

Since the late 1970s, the Holy Family School building has housed a soup kitchen founded by the late Msgr. Francis Schweitzer, Holy Family Church’s pastor from 1970 to 1996. Because of the coronavirus, the kitchen’s operations have shifted to Holy Family’s parish center.

Although the museum is closed, Kenney said donations are needed to cover ongoing expenses and the cost of the move. They may be sent to Jubilee Museum, P.O. Box 164234, Columbus, OH 43216 or made online at www.jubileemuseum.org.
Friends reunite to fix second organ, this one at Bremen church

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

About a half-century ago, boyhood friends John Schechter and Charlie Potter decided to rebuild a small pipe organ inside the garage of Schechter’s family home in Monroe in southwest Ohio.

It took two years of sporadic work before the project was completed in 1973. Nearly 50 years later, they have combined to rebuild a second organ – this one at Bremen St. Mary Church.

The opportunity for the two to duplicate their long-ago effort began in March with a conversation at the diocesan Rite of Election in Westerville St. Paul the Apostle Church between Schechter’s wife, Lisa, and Father Ty Tomson, pastor of Bremen St. Mary Church, whom she had known when he was parochial vicar at Columbus St. Andrew Church.

“I mentioned that John would be retiring from AEP (American Electric Power) in April, and John needed a project to get him out of the house,” Lisa said. “Father Ty said he had a pipe organ in need of repair that had been sitting silent in his church and jokingly asked if John knew anything about organs. ‘As a matter of fact, he does,’ I told him.”

The organ to which Father Tomson was referring was built in 1964 and had two previous owners. It was built for a church in the Philadelphia area, and then was sold to an organist who wanted to install it in his home. That installation never took place, so it was placed on the secondary market, and Father Tomson bought it.

“Father Ty contacted me in early May, and Charlie and I went to Bremen to look at the organ,” John Schechter said. “I don’t want to sound overconfident, but I felt pretty sure we could help because it was made by the Moller Company of Hagerstown, Maryland, which built church organs for more than a century.

“The organ we rebuilt in Monroe was a Moller, and the technology was pretty similar, so we felt comfortable about the work.”

Schechter said he and Potter made the two-hour round trip to Bremen from Columbus about 75 times over the next six months and spent 15-25 hours a week on the restoration before completing it in late October. The instrument was dedicated on Sunday, Nov. 1. There will be a dedication concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 22, the Feast of Christ the King and the feast day of St. Cecilia, patron of music, featuring Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral organist Nicole Simental.

“The biggest problem we had was with the organ’s wind system,” Schechter said. “It had structural issues which caused us to remove all the pipes from one of the chambers and replace the wind blower with a new model. If things had stayed as they were, the organ would have been far too noisy for a small church and would have distracted from an organ’s central purpose of adding beauty to worship.

“We went online and found a blower which came from Germany and was bought from a stateside supplier. Taking the organ apart meant we had to find a place to put the pipes and the other parts of the mechanism, but the pandemic provided a serendipitous answer to that problem. Since no activities were going on, we were able to commandeer the parish hall as a staging and storage area,” he said.

“We also put in a new electrical system for the organ, wiring about 2,000 electric connections. The pipe mechanism has about 750 pipes, and they were in pretty good shape. Deacon Jeff Carpenter is an engineer and was a big help in getting the organ’s digital control system programmed. We got to know parishioners and the parish staff very well, and we thank them for their forbearance,” Schechter said.

The organ sang its first note on Aug. 5, but it took until late October to get all the wiring done and complete the rebuilding. It will take the place of a Yamaha keyboard that had been the church’s only source of instrumental music.

Schechter said an incomplete attempt to install the two-manual, nine-rank organ had been made by Father Tomson; Father Thomas Buffer, pastor of Marion St. Mary and Cardington Sacred Hearts churches; and Shawn Kenney, director of the Jubilee Museum of Catholic artifacts in Columbus and organist at Columbus Holy Family Church. “They didn’t have enough time to finish their work, so it had been sitting voiceless for nearly two years” until Schechter and Potter did their restoration work, Schechter said.

The first organ Schechter and Potter restored also was a used instrument. It was built as a church organ in 1926 and was purchased by a family in Cincinnati in the late 1950s before being brought to the Schechter home in Monroe, where it remained for a while before being sold to a buyer in California.

After rebuilding the organ, the friends lost touch. Schechter went to Sterling College in Kansas to study music, and Potter headed to Columbus to work for an organ maintenance company.

After a semester at the Kansas school, Schechter decided he wanted to be an engineer and transferred to the University of Cincinnati, where he received a bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering. He was awarded a master’s degree in the same subject by Ohio State University. He worked for AEP in Fort Wayne and South Bend, Indiana for 19 years before being transferred in 2000 to Columbus, where he reconnected with his old friend.

Schechter never tried to rebuild another organ until this year but retained the knowledge of the instrument he picked up as a result of the rebuild and a summer job with John Brombaugh and Associates, an organ builder near his boyhood home.

He said his interest in the organ probably stems from his being the son and grandson of Presbyterian ministers. “I’m proud and grateful for my Presbyterian background,” he said.

“After starting with AEP, I became a Methodist, then a Lutheran, then joined an Episcopal church in Fort Wayne, which I attended for 10 years...
Sharon Wong began to volunteer nine years ago at the Marian Gift Shop inside Westerville St. Paul the Apostle Church because she thought her training as an interior designer would help make the space look attractive. Today, as the shop’s paid manager, she realizes her role isn’t just to provide religious goods, but to serve as a missionary disciple.

“As I got more involved with the shop, I gradually became aware through talking to customers that it’s here not just to sell things, but to provide a peaceful atmosphere that extends into the rest of the church building,” Wong said.

“Every day the shop is open, I get to pray with people and help them find items with a Catholic theme. It’s a very joyful experience. Sometimes people have come here distraught and in tears, and I’ve listened to them and helped them find something that will give them comfort. I’m also happy just to have people come in and browse.”

The coronavirus pandemic has changed the hours of the shop, located just off the narthex (main vestibule) of the church at 313 N. State St. It’s now open from 9:15 a.m. to noon Monday and Friday, noon to 7 p.m. Wednesday, 9:15 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and closed Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday.

“Sundays were our busiest days, but we lost those when the pandemic hit, keeping the shop closed from mid-March to June 1,” Wong said. “When it reopened, its weekend hours were increased. That has enabled the number of visitors to stay about the same as it was.”

She said the shop has about 6,000 sales transactions a year and anywhere from 15 to 100 transactions a day, depending on the day of the week and the season of the year.

Annual sales are more than $100,000 and steadily growing. “We earn enough to consistently cover our overhead, build a small amount of savings for future needs and return the balance to the parish,” Wong said.

It’s a small shop, but nearly all of its 522 square feet are filled with merchandise. Besides the prayer books, Bibles, medals, jewelry, rosaries, prayer cards, greeting cards, music CDs, plaques and other goods that one might expect to find at a religious gift shop, it also stocks measuring spoons, pie plates, welcome signs, handbags and other items, all with a Catholic theme.

For the Christmas season, it has holiday cookies from the Sisters of St. Benedict in Ferdinand, Indiana and jellies and jams from the Trappist monks of St. Joseph’s Abbey in Spencer, Massachusetts. For people looking for a way of viewing the coronavirus through a perspective involving Scripture and the lives of the saints, there is a book titled Conquering Coronavirus by EWTN Radio host Teresa Tomeo.

The shop is serving parishioners by making masks available at no charge and placing them in a basket in the narthex. “They’re made by Eloise Keating, a parishioner,” Wong said. “She came in one day, said she was making masks and asked if I’d like to have some in the store. I said we’d be happy to, and she’s refilled the basket many times.” Wong estimated that Keating had supplied 500 masks, made of cotton with elastic ear bands, as of the end of October.

Wong said that as far as she knows, the shop is the only one of its type in a Catholic church in central Ohio. She said customers come from across the Diocese of Columbus, including many people who visit for one of several diocesan events that take place inside the building and are surprised it has a gift shop.

St. Paul Church, dedicated in 2011, has received a number of awards for its classic architecture, including selection by U.S. Catholic magazine in 2014 as one of 10 churches that are “national treasures.” This has brought people to the site from across the nation. “A lot of them tell me they were in the area for other reasons and made it a point to come and see the church,” Wong said.

“Some drive past and say they came because the church is so beautiful from the outside they had to see if it was open. We also have a lot of non-Catholics come for the same reason. Now we’re in the time of year when people are coming for the holidays to see parents and relatives and stop by to see if we have a Catholic-related item they’ve been looking for.”

The shop also serves as a center providing hospitality and giving directions for people attending diocesan activities taking place there. In 2018, the church was the site for the funeral of two Westerville police officers killed by a gunman, and the shop helped many out-of-town visitors in attendance who were unfamiliar with the city.

Wong has two children and has lived in central Ohio for 25 years. Her daughter, Sister Therese Marie, CFR, is a member of the Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal, a religious community founded by Father Andrew Apostoli, CFR, in 1988, and lives in their convent in the Bronx borough of New York City. “She comes home once a year and often visits me in the shop,” Wong said. “People just love it when she stops by.” Wong’s son, Mark, is a member of the Ohio State Highway Patrol and attends Worthington St. Michael Church.

Wong, who received a Bachelor of Science degree in interior design in 1991 from the University of Wisconsin-Stout, said that as her children grew older, she had time available and began asking God to help her find the best way to use it.

“I always enjoyed volunteering,” she said. “In 2011, the church was getting ready to move into its current building, the gift shop, which had been in the old church, also was moving, and I thought my interior design experience would help Shirley Moore, who managed the shop, in setting up the new space and making it look inviting.

“It was a perfect fit. Shirley needed the help and said she wanted to back away from full-time work at the shop, which she had been running since it opened. I became more and more involved and took over as full-time manager five years ago.”

Moore, 83, said her work as the parish secretary for the parish’s Confraternity of Christian Doctrine program (now known as the Parish School of Religion) led to the opening of the shop around 1990. “I had started buying things on my own on consignment from the (Columbus St. Joseph) Cathedral Book Shop (which closed in 2011) to give as gifts to students for first Communion and Confirmation,” she said.

“Then I started buying a few other things, and space was set aside so they could be sold, first in the parish library and then in a room in back of the church that held a kitchen, rest rooms and other things. I talked to Father Art Wiles, the pastor at the time, about using that space as a gift shop. He brought it up to the parish council, and they all agreed, and they gave me a lot of help in setting up the shop up.

“People loved it. Customers came in all the time, and I always had volunteers to help me. Then Sharon came along as we were getting ready to move, and she was a godsend. I was able to retire and have her take over, and she’s done a great job with it. It’s wonderful that there’s still plenty of people coming in, so I know I left the shop in good hands.”

Wong is the shop’s only full-time paid employee. She had been receiving help from eight volunteers, but safe-distance regulations limit the number of people in the shop to two customers and one employee at a time.

Wong now is using the volunteers to stand outside the shop to make sure it’s adhering to the limit. Their presence is needed because Wong said enough customers are coming that the rule has to be enforced nearly every day. A display of religious goods is set up around the sales counter to make sure proper distance guidelines are maintained during transactions.

“I asked God to help me find a way to be of service, and I found something more fulfilling than I could imagine,” she said. “I’m grateful to Shirley for giving me the opportunity. Managing the shop has made me realize its mission is one of service first and that it is an effective ministry.”

Catholic Gift Shop serves as effective evangelization tool
DeSales in state title game; three teams fall in semifinals

Four diocesan high school teams began this past weekend with state championship aspirations, and one remains in the running.

Columbus St. Francis DeSales (9-1) advanced to the Division III state final with a 23-13 victory over Kettering Alter (8-3) on Friday, Nov. 13 at London High School in a semifinal matchup between two Catholic schools with storied football histories.

Senior running back Quintell Quinn rushed for 135 yards and three touchdowns on 24 carries to help DeSales grind out the victory. The Ohio University commitment scored on runs of 6, 10 and 21 yards. The latter two came at the end of the third quarter and the start of the fourth quarter to expand the Stallions’ lead to 23-7.

Quarterback Will Hobgood added 69 yards rushing on six carries, and Jason Velazquez II recovered a fumble to set up Quinn’s last touchdown. DeSales outgained Alter 284-250 in total yards.

The Stallions will appear in a state championship game for the ninth time in school history, facing Chardon (11-0) at 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 21 in Division III at Fortress Obetz.

Newark Catholic’s football season ended in the Division VII semifinals with a 20-13 loss to Warren John F. Kennedy (10-2) on Nov. 13 at Massillon’s Paul Brown Tiger Stadium. The semifinal appearance was a state-record 26th for the Green Wave (7-4) but their first since 2006.

Trailing 20-6 late in the fourth quarter, Newark Catholic scored with 16 seconds remaining on a 9-yard pass from Cole Canter to Brandon Buchanan. The Green Wave recovered an ensuing onside kick to get the ball back. A 19-yard completion from Canter to Buchanan put the ball at Warren Kennedy’s 22-yard line, but a game-ending pass into the end zone was knocked away.

Canter finished with 181 passing yards, and Tanner Elwell had five receptions for 92 yards.

In volleyball, Columbus Bishop Watterson and Newark Catholic fell in the state semifinals.

Watterson was defeated 3-1 by top-ranked Parma Padua Franciscan in Division I at Vandalia-Butler High School on Nov. 13, finishing its season with a 17-7 record. The Eagles had advanced a week earlier by winning a volleyball regional title for the first time in school history.

In the semifinal loss, Watterson was led by Ava Hoying with 13 kills; Sydney Taylor and Olyvia Kennedy with 12 each; and Gina Grden with 10. Sophie Mangold contributed four blocks.

The Eagles dropped the first set 25-17 and came back to win the second 25-15 before losing the final two sets 25-21 and 25-23. In the fourth set, Watterson overcame a 19-15 deficit to tie the score at 20-20 and again at 22-22, but Padua Franciscan took two of the next three sets to win the match 25-23.

Central Catholic League fall sports

Girls Volleyball
All-league first team
Sydney Taylor, Olyvia Kennedy, Sophie Mangold, Columbus Bishop Watterson; Colleen Sweeney, Ela Brandewie, Columbus Bishop Hartley; Bridget Javitch, Columbus St. Francis DeSales; Simone Daniel, Columbus Bishop Ready

All-league second team
Gina Grden, Ava Hoying, Bishop Watterson; Lauren Johnson, Jasmy Crockett, Bishop Hartley; Saje Washington, Avery Boyd, St. Francis DeSales; Megan Chesser, Bishop Ready

Final league standings
1. Bishop Watterson
2. Bishop Hartley
3. St. Francis DeSales
4. Bishop Ready

Boys soccer
All-league first team
Zack Rennie, Andrew Shaefer, Vigo Bartolo, St. Francis DeSales; Colin Robinson, Trent Maisano, Sean Nyhus, Bishop Watterson; Emmett Gillies, Ryan Hawk, Bishop Hartley; Isaac Paul, Bishop Ready; Gabe O’Reilly, Brady Westin, Brady West, Joie Roberts, Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School

All-league second team
Gabe Weikert, Alejandro Martinez, Nick Kennedy, St. Francis DeSales; Alex Spiers, Anthony Fulz, Bishop Watterson; Alex Gabriel, Nahom Che- gen, Colin Callahan, Bishop Hartley; Adam Bennet, Garrison Budd, Josh Paul, Bishop Ready; Danny Marino, Charley Valachovic, St. Charles

Final league standings
1. St. Charles
2. St. Francis DeSales
3. Bishop Watterson
4. Bishop Hartley
5. Bishop Ready
Bishop Watterson takes state title in field hockey

A season unlike any other ended in a magical way for the Columbus Bishop Watterson field hockey team.

Unfazed by the COVID-19 pandemic that impacted the routines and schedules of all high school athletic teams this fall in an unprecedented manner, the Eagles claimed their first state championship in the sport since 2009 with a 3-0 victory over Hudson on Saturday, Nov. 7 at Thomas Worthington High School.

Alex Picolo, Cailin O’Reilly and Zoe Coleman scored goals in the championship game for the Eagles, whose state title was the fourth in program history. The team has been coached in all but one of those seasons by Janet Baird, who also has guided Watterson to state runner-up finishes five times.

Watterson finished with an 18-3 record after avenging all three regular-season losses during the postseason tournament.

Well before the team began a season that culminated in a state title, so much uncertainty surrounded high school athletics and whether there would even be competition this fall because of COVID-19 shutdowns that led to the cancellation of spring sports. But Baird said her players adhered to the protocols and avoided medical issues.

“Getting the parents and the girls on the same page about what it was going to take to get through the season in a healthy manner was really challenging,” Baird said. “And then the second (challenge), I would say, is, we didn’t really have an opportunity because of the pandemic to do any type of off-the-field bonding that brings the team together.”

Baird was fortunate to have seven seniors on the varsity roster to provide stability and leadership. Some of them had started since they were freshmen and had experienced the disappointment of failing to advance to the state final four each of the past three years. “They had been through some pain in the past, losing by a goal in the three district championship games in a row, and I think that pain along the way helped them get to the point that they were at this year,” Baird said.

The 2020 state title capped a rewarding week for the Eagles that started with beating Thomas Worthington in the district final, continued with a team Mass at Columbus Our Lady of Peace Church and an inspirational meeting with members of the 2009 championship team in the parish’s parking lot, and was followed by wins over Columbus Academy in double overtime in the state semifinals and Hudson in the final.

“It just unfolded as, honestly, a perfect week,” Baird said. “I couldn’t have drawn it up any better.”

In the championship game against Hudson, Picolo scored eight minutes in to give Watterson a 1-0 lead, and the Eagles added two goals in the third period. Their defense and goalkeeper Caroline Dunham preserved a shutout.

“It was definitely by far the best defensive game we played all year,” Baird said. “I thought our corner defense, which is something that we worked on hard for two weeks, performed beyond my expectations.”

The game played out much differently than Watterson’s 4-1 loss to Hudson in early October.

“I think they turned it into ‘we have a point to prove,’” Baird said of her team. “We didn’t perform like ourselves (in the first meeting), and (in the final) they were up to the task. They worked really hard.”

Brynn Peddicord collected 12 kills and five aces for Newark Catholic.

Another fall sports team from Watterson fell just short of moving forward to the state semifinals earlier this month, when the Eagles lost 1-0 to Olentangy High School in a Division I girls regional soccer final.

In the state cross country championships on Saturday, Nov. 7, Lancaster Fisher Catholic finished 10th in the Division III boys 5,000-meter race and Bishop Watterson was 17th in Division II boys competition.

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**St. Andrew novena heralds Christmas season**

By MaryBeth Eberhard

One thing I love about my Catholic faith is its richness. There are always opportunities to grow in my relationship with the Lord.

When I was younger, it was the church choir. As a young adult and newly married, fellowship and small Christian groups were instrumental in growing my faith. When I became a mother, Mommy and Me playgroups kept me surrounded by holy women. Now, as my children grow, Bible studies, prayer groups and book studies provide companionship on my faith journey.

These opportunities are all incredible, but I desire to delve more deeply into prayer, and so I have been going back to older traditions in the church and bringing them into my family.

When my older children were just tottlers, I came across the beauty of the St. Andrew Christmas Novena. An incredibly moving and lyrical prayer, its beauty transports us back to the time of the Nativity. We stand quietly outside the stable in the starlit night. The chill of the air is upon our skin, and we are united with the Holy Family in this most sacred moment:

Hail and Blessed be the moment and hour in which the Son of God was born, of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight in Bethlehem in piercing cold. In that hour, vouchsafe O my God, to hear my prayers and grant my desires (mention your intentions here) through the merits of Our Savior, Jesus Christ, and of His Blessed Mother.

I know what you are thinking: Christmas novena? I haven’t even bought my Thanksgiving turkey! Stay with me because there is more to this novena than just a request or repetition. This prayer has a way of leading you along the path walking with the Blessed Mother and St. Joseph to Bethlehem. It prepares your heart for the birth of the Lord in a quiet and meditative way that allows you to contemplatively enter into the Advent season. Many nights have I prayed it quietly, looking out my window, watching the snow fall and feeling the “piercing cold” as I walked to Bethlehem in my prayers.

As we draw closer to Thanksgiving, consider printing your own copy of this prayer and placing it on the table or making prayer cards for family members.

St. Andrew’s feast day is celebrated Nov. 30, which is when we begin this novena. It is commonly called the Christmas Anticipation Novena, as it is prayed up until Christmas Day. It is a lovely tradition to bring into your home.

There are days we pray this at mealtime around our family table and evenings when its soothing cadence rocks young souls to sleep as my husband and I sit upon the landing at the top of the stairs and pray. Don’t let yourself get caught up in the number of times you pray, but rather the time you enter into the mysteries of the Incarnation through the Nativity of our Lord.

St. Andrew was a fisherman alongside his brother, St. Peter. Andrew was the first disciple called by our Lord. His feast day is at the beginning of the new liturgical year. St. Andrew was crucified on an X-shaped cross, and tradition has it that he continued preaching the gospel for two days after he was hung on the cross. He is the patron saint of fishermen and singers.

**Cristo Rey appoints chief operating officer**

Carly Rey has been appointed as the first chief operating officer of Cristo Rey Columbus High School. This new position will streamline the school’s organizational structure and advance the impact of its current resources, the school said in a release.

Miller has served in the school’s advancement office and as leader of its strategic planning program. “A five-year veteran here at Cristo Rey, Miller is the perfect candidate for this newly created role,” said school president Joe Patrick. “Her legal background, expertise at Cristo Rey Columbus and passion for our staff and students are a powerful combination.”

The move is one of several administrative changes being made to continue the growth the school has demonstrated since it opened in 2011. “Jim Foley (who retired as school president in July) left us on incredible financial footing when he retired,” Patrick said. “With Carly as chief operating officer and our other school leaders, we are poised to help Cristo Rey Columbus take the next steps.”

Miller received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Swarthmore College in ancient history and a Juris Doctor degree from Ohio State University. Her legal career includes eight years practicing intellectual property and business litigation law. She had 15 years of volunteer experience working with young people in educational settings before coming to Cristo Rey.
Ten diocesan deacon candidates lie prostrate while surrounding the altar, with Bishop Robert Brennan kneeling in prayer as part of the deacons’ ordination ceremony at Westerville St. Paul the Apostle Church.

The Elect at the deacon ordination ceremony.

Deacon candidate Eric Wright comes before Bishop Robert Brennan during the Promise of the Elect at the deacon ordination ceremony.

ORGAN, continued from Page 16

and where I was a member of the vestry,” the congregation’s lay governing board.

“Lisa was a cradle Catholic, and we agreed to raise our children Catholic. There were a lot of roadblocks to my becoming Catholic, but as I learned more about the faith through asking about it and through Lisa’s example, those roadblocks came down one by one,” Schechter said.

He entered into full communion with the Catholic Church in 1998 in Fort Wayne. After coming to Columbus, he became involved in several Catholic ministries. He is a board member and past president of the Catholic Men’s Luncheon Club and a member of the planning team for the 2021 diocesan Catholic Men’s Conference, and has been co-chair of several previous conferences.

He also facilitates a weekly men’s Bible group at Columbus St. Andrew Church that now is meeting online; helped form the parish’s monthly men’s breakfast fellowship; is a past grand knight of Knights of Columbus Council 11275; has been involved in the That Man Is You! program at Columbus St. Agatha and St. Timothy churches; is both a lector and a lector trainer and coordinator; and served as chair of the diocesan music subcommission for about five years.

“Becoming a Catholic has totally changed my life,” he said. “The more I learn about the Church, the more I want to know about it. I attended the men’s conference for about five years, then got involved in the leadership team, and it’s been a great honor to help put the event together every year and see how it has affected the lives of thousands of Catholic men.”

DEACONS, continued from Page 10

understand. Walk with God’s people, generously sharing the joy and hope, the grief and anguish of the people of our time, especially of those who are poor or afflicted in any way.

“And as deacons, bind the wounds with the salve of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the gaze of charity and the tenderness of your genuine care.”

After the homily, the candidates declared their resolve to undertake their new ministry and promised respect and obedience to the bishop and his successors. This was followed by what to many people is the most visually dramatic part of the ceremony as the candidates lay face down in front of the bishop while a cantor and the congregation chanted the Litany of the Saints.

They were formally consecrated as deacons through the bishop’s laying of hands on each of their heads, followed by his reading of a prayer of consecration asking God to dedicate them to the service of the altar and the Word.

The bishop’s laying-on of hands is a gesture based in Scripture and signifies the special conferral of the Holy Spirit, which ords men to service in Holy Orders. The deacons’ ordination means they have entered from the lay state of the church into the clerical state through the Sacrament of Holy Orders. The diaconate is the first of the Catholic Church’s three clerical orders and the only one open to married men, the others being the orders of priest and bishop.

Many people say the new deacons made vows to the bishop, but promises are the more accurate theological term because promises are made to a person – in this case, the bishop – while vows are made directly to God.

Unlike members of religious orders, members of the diocesan clergy, including deacons, do not make a vow or a promise of poverty. However, they are expected to live a simple lifestyle, without an excess of material goods.

After the prayer of consecration came the new deacons’ investiture with the stole and dalmatic, which are symbolic of their ministry. They next were presented with the Book of the Gospels, symbolizing their commitment to proclaiming God’s Word.

The ordination rite concluded with a fraternal kiss of peace from the bishop, who extended his greeting to the new deacons as a sign that they are co-workers in the church’s ministry. The other deacons in attendance also gave the sign of peace to the newly ordained. The Mass then proceeded with the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

Their ordination means the new deacons can baptize, assist a priest at Mass, proclaim the gospel and give homilies, witness at marriages, preside at funeral vigils and graveside committal services and give certain blessings. They cannot celebrate Mass, hear confessions or anoint the sick.
Solemnity of Christ the King Year A
Are you ready to stand before the Son of Man?

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**
Father Timothy M. Hayes
Father Timothy M. Hayes is pastor of
Chillicothe St. Mary and St. Peter, and Waiverly, St. Mary, Queen of the Missions.

The criterion of judgment is how human beings have treated the most vulnerable. The Lord of all identifies Himself with all who are in need. Judgment comes for those who ignored their plight: “For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, a stranger and you gave me no welcome, naked and you gave me no clothing, ill and in prison, and you did not care for me.” Neither “the accursed” nor “the righteous” were aware of the presence of the Lord in the least, but the way they acted in the darkness of this world makes all the difference. Those who showed no compassion “go off to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.”

God’s judgment of His sheep concerns how the sheep treat one another. Often, we have a view of God that is distorted. We imagine God as a God of blame, one who tallies up our rights and wrongs against Him. God reveals Himself as a judge, to be sure. But the kind of judgment He offers concerns how we take care of one another.

We are called to act on behalf of God, showing love and concern to others in His name. How do we relate to the homeless, refugees and immigrants, people of other religions and nationalities, different economic classes and those who think differently from us? Jesus makes it clear that He is aligned with them. When we serve others beyond our comfort zone, we are serving Jesus. When the Lord comes to meet us at the end of time, He will know us as we have come to recognize Him in them.

Now is the time for a sober judgment of our own actions. We must review how we make ourselves available to others to discover whether we are ready to face judgment by God. Are we ready to stand before the Son of Man?

**THE WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS**

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<td>FRIDAY</td>
<td>Revelation 20:1-4</td>
<td>Psalm 84:3-6a,8a</td>
<td>Luke 21:29-33</td>
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<td>THURSDAY</td>
<td>Isaiah 26:1-6</td>
<td>Psalm 118:1-9,</td>
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| SATURDAY      | Isaiah 30:19-21,23-26| Psalm 147:1-6       | Matthew 9:35-10:1, 5a,6-8 |}

**DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION**

**MASS SCHEDULE: WEEKS OF NOV. 22 & 29, 2020**

**SUNDAY MASS**
10:30 a.m. Mass from Portsmouth St. Mary Church on Gabriel Radio (FM 88.3), Portsmouth.
Mass with the Passionist Fathers at 7:30 a.m. on WWOD-1 TV (the CW), Channel 53, Columbus, and 10:30 a.m. on WHIZ-TV, Channel 18, Zanesville.
Masses from St. Francis de Sales Seminary, Milwaukee, at 10 a.m. on WWHD-TV. Check local cable system for cable channel listing.
Mass from Our Lady of the Angels Monastery, Birmingham, Ala., at 6 p.m., and midnight.
Mass from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee at 5:30 a.m. on ION TV (AT&T U-verse Channel 195, Dish Network Channel 250, or DirecTV Channel 305).
Mass from Massillon St. Mary Church at 10:30 a.m. on WLWB radio (AM 1060, FM 94.5 and 89.5), Canton, heard in Tuscarawas, Holmes, and Coshocton counties.

**DAILY MASS**
8 a.m., Our Lady of the Angels Monastery in Birmingham, Ala. (Encores at noon, 7 p.m., and midnight, See EWTN above; and on LifeNet Channel 113, Ada, Logan, Millersburg, Murray City, Washington C.H., Channel 125, Marion, Newark, Newcomerstown, and New Philadelphia. Channel 207, Zanesville); 8 p.m., St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com.

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The Lord of Human History shapes the act of judgment entrusted to Him as the result of human choices. It is not the actions of the great and mighty. No politicians or royalty among human beings are present at the side of the Son of Man, only the angels. The only one to possess glory is the Son of Man. All are separated by the one to whom judgment has been entrusted. All pretense falls away.

**First Sunday of Advent Year B**

‘Watch!’ what we do and respond to God’s Word

**Isaiah 63:16b—17, 19b; 64:2—7**
**Psalm 80:2–3, 15–16, 18–19**
**1 Corinthians 1:3–9**
**Mark 13:33–37**

The Word of God is effective. It accomplishes what is says. When the Word of the Lord is spoken to us, we receive it into our very being, and it brings about in us exactly what it proclaims. The Gospel this first Sunday of Advent has a powerful Word: ‘Watch!’

As Advent begins, the Lord seeks to discover hearts that are open to an understanding of God’s intention for our lives. It teaches us to look to Jesus Christ as our glorious future. Advent is a season of waiting and preparation. As the weeks unfold, we are plunged into the history of salvation that has been accomplished through God’s own Word. The mysteries of salvation are opened anew so that we may grow in our understanding and practice in response to God’s Word.

The message of Advent is a message of hope addressed to all humanity. It is spoken with authority and promise. It seeks to discover hearts that are open to the message of Advent...
and ready to receive what is offered: Watch. Look. See. Understand. Be ready. Cooperate with grace. Attend to what is happening. We are called to communion, fellowship with God through His Son.

We see that the world around us is caught up in admiration of its own capacities. This confuses the gift with the giver. God is the source of our abilities. “Why do you let us wander, O LORD, from your ways, and harden our hearts so that we fear you not?”

When we see things rightly, we rightly esteem the gifts God has given us, and we put them to use for the right purpose: to prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ, the glorious arrival of our Savior, cloaked in majesty. When we see things rightly, we open our hearts to God’s plan for our lives, as individuals and as a community of believers, entrusted with a mission, the responsibility of witnessing to the presence of God among us, and the task of feeding our brothers and sisters with the Word of God. We join the task of feeding our brothers and sisters with the Word of God. We join the task of feeding our brothers and sisters with the Word of God. We join the task of feeding our brothers and sisters with the Word of God.

In the meantime, as we wait, we keep watch: longing for the fulfillment of God’s promise, and seeking to be the people of God by offering our willing service to one another and sharing our faith that Christ will come again.

Giving thanks for the grace of God bestowed on us in Jesus Christ, we make use of the spiritual gifts that we have received, and we persevere by the grace of God until we meet the Lord as He comes to us.

We keep our eyes fixed on the goal. We are being called to be something new in the world even as the world chooses to push us to the sidelines. Our temptation is to think we can go on just the way we are. Our desire that things “return to normal” in a post-coronavirus world is also a temptation. We must be transformed by the grace poured out on us at this time of history, a new moment of salvation.

Watch: What is going on in your own heart? Do you hear the voice of the Lord?

Watch: What is happening in your family? Are you becoming more centered on faith in your family? Is Jesus welcome in your home? Would He feel at home there?

Watch: What is happening in the culture around you? How can you make a difference in that culture? Do others see your joy in the Gospel?

The Lord speaks to us: “What I say to you, I say to all: ‘Watch!’”

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

St. Andrew Parish is seeking a full time Parish Business Administrator who will serve as a staff resource in support of the pastor. This administrative position will have direct responsibility for ensuring that the parish and school needs in finance, payroll and personnel records, facilities, business administration and parish office staffing are fulfilled.

Candidates should have a minimum of a B.A. in accounting and be able to perform general accounting including budgeting, financial reporting, accounts receivable, cash receipts and disbursement, and payroll. This person will also be responsible for the supervision of office staff, overseeing Parish Office operations, monitoring of facilities’ management and acquisition of goods and services in support of business operations. Must work well with pastor, staff and volunteers.

Job offer is contingent on the successful passing of the mandatory background screening and completion of the VIRTUS “Protecting God’s Children” program. Compensation is commensurate with experience and ability. Benefits are according to Diocesan policy and include a full complement of benefits, including health, dental, vision, life, short & long-term disability, and matching 403(b). Qualified individuals should submit cover letter, resume and references to Msgr. Stephan Maloney, Pastor, at smaloney@columbuscatholic.org by November 30.
**Mary J. Reale**

Funeral Mass for Mary J. Reale, 91, who died Saturday, Oct. 31, was celebrated Friday, Nov. 6 at Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton Parish.

She was born in Alliance to Ben and Nellie Frustos.

She was a teacher at Columbus Holy Spirit School from 1963 to 1995 and Reynoldsburg St. Pius X School from 1965 to 1995. After retirement, she taught reading to adults at the Dominican Learning Center in Columbus.

She was preceded in death by her parents; son, David; and brother, Ben. Survivors include a son, Christopher (Janet); daughters, Ann (Robert) Metz and Beth (Gary) Batke; sister, Corrine Densmore; 10 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

**Rosamund M. Anderson Wilson**

Rosamund M. Anderson Wilson, 99, who was organist at Logan St. John Church from 1956 to 1997, died Thursday, Nov. 5 at Seneca House in Tiffin. There was no funeral Mass for her because of the coronavirus pandemic.

She was born on April 8, 1921, in Logan to Leo and Evelyn (Haley) Fox.

She received Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees from Ohio University and was an administrative and therapeutic dietitian at hospitals in New York, Ohio and California.

She became one of the first three members of the Hocking College nursing program when the college was founded in 1968 and taught there until retiring in 1986. She received the institution’s Outstanding Teacher Award and President’s Award in 1984, was the first chairman of the college’s faculty organization, and authored six nutrition workbooks. She moved to Tiffin a few years ago to live near her daughter, Maria.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husbands, Sterling Anderson, who died in 1986, and Robert Wilson, who died in 2006; son, Romuald Anderson; brothers, Joseph and Paul; and sister, Catherine Londergan. Survivors include a son, Christopher (Donna); daughters, Deborah (Rick) Henry, Catherine (Dan) Walsh and Maria (Steve Jozwiak) Anderson; a stepdaughter, Sherry Smith; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

**Danville parishioner fostered 33 children**

Florence Heldenbrand had four brothers and four sisters and always enjoyed having children around, her sister said.

Because of her caring nature, she and her husband, Carl, who died in 1994, were foster parents to 33 children during the 1970s and ’80s and operated a family campground.

Heldenbrand, 96, died Thursday, Oct. 15 at the Ohio Eastern Star Home in Mount Vernon. The funeral Mass was at Danville St. Luke Church on Tuesday, Oct. 20. She was buried in the parish cemetery.

“Florence was taking care of someone’s children all the time,” said her sister, Margaret Samples. “Her home was the kind of place where there was always a playpen or an extra bed available. She liked to stay at home, and being a foster parent gave her a way to do that and to earn a little money. But she didn’t do it for the money. It was because of the children.”

That love for children led the Heldenbrands to purchase the former Camp Nelson Dodd in Brinkhaven, near the border of Knox and Holmes counties, when the YMCA put it up for sale in the early 1970s because it was getting too expensive to run. It had been donated to the YMCA in 1922.

The Heldenbrands turned the site, located on the Mohican River, into a family campground known as Camp Whip-Poor-Will Hills, featuring canoeing and other activities. They operated it for about 20 years before selling it to another family. It continues to be an active campground.

Samples said the Heldenbrands’ foster children ranged in age from infancy to 18. The couple cared for them for periods ranging from a few weeks to a year or more. They fostered one child, named Michael, for nine years and eventually adopted him. After leaving the campground, they moved to the Knox County community of Howard. Florence spent the last years of her life in the Eastern Star Home.

“It seemed like the logical thing to do,” Florence once said of her caring for foster children. “You just do what seems natural, and you get back a lot more. You get back a lot more than you ever give.”

Florence was born on June 15, 1924 in Danville to Donald and Florence (Blanchard) Colopy. She represented St. Luke Church at many diocesan meetings, and she taught and mentored people preparing to join the
Kindergarten students at Columbus Our Lady of Bethlehem School and Childcare (OLB) welcomed Bishop Robert Brennan on Friday, Oct. 30 as they arrived at school. Students came to school dressed as their chosen Eco-Saint in celebration of All Saints Day. Students took part in an All Saints Day Mass with Bishop Brennan as it livestreamed on the Diocese of Columbus, Office of Catholic Schools and OLB Facebook pages. Kindergarten students presented the bishop with a memory book they made of themselves as their saint. Opportunities such as this provide OLB’s young students with a strong, loving start for a lifetime of success. To view the recorded Mass, visit Our Lady of Bethlehem School and Childcare or the Office of Catholic Schools’ YouTube channels.

‘Saints’ visit Lancaster St. Mary

Teacher Elizabeth Van Evra and Father Craig Eilerman, pastor of Lancaster St. Mary Church (standing on top row), are shown with third-grade students from Lancaster St. Mary School, who researched a saint and dressed as the subject of their research to celebrate All Saints Day. Photo courtesy St. Mary School

PARISHIONER, continued from Page 24

Catholic Church. She received the parish’s Golden Deeds award in 1996 “in recognition of her unselfish commitment and service to others.”

She was part of the Wonder Workers 4-H Club for more than 20 years and was a founding volunteer for the Knox County Hospice, serving in that role for more than 25 years and receiving the hospice’s volunteer of the year award in 2007. She also refurbished dolls for Toys for Tots, assembled holiday food baskets for the Salvation Army and volunteered at the Danville interchurch pantry.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by an infant son, David; brothers, Donald and Richard Colopy; sisters, Barbara Colopy and Regina Randall; infant twin great-grandsons and an infant great-granddaughter.

Survivors include her son, Michael (Gidget); daughters, Barbara Davis and Bonnallee (Jeffrey) Ike; brothers, Robert and Patrick Colopy; sisters, Margaret Samples and Marilyn Arnold; seven grandchildren; five step-grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; three step-great-grandchildren; and a great-great-grandson.

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Marker honors Josephinum founder

A state historical marker honoring Msgr. John Joseph Jessing, founder of the Pontifical College Josephinum, was rededicated by Bishop Robert Brennan on Sunday, Nov. 1. The marker, commissioned in 2003, was damaged during construction on U.S. Route 23, which runs past the seminary. It was stored on campus until work on the road was completed. This year is the 150th anniversary of Msgr. Jessing’s ordination to the priesthood.

Photo courtesy Pontifical College Josephinum

St. Agatha students collect diapers

Columbus St. Agatha School students collected more than 7,500 diapers for a Bottoms Up diaper drive during October, Respect Life Month. That represents an increase of nearly 50 percent from the 5,100 collected in a drive last fall. Pictured with some of the diapers are Bottoms Up representative Jo Welsh (left) and second-grade teacher Jericho Wagenbrenner.

Photo courtesy Bottoms Up

Eagle Scout creates garden

Eagle Scout Luke Williams, a member of Scout Troop 365, designed and created a sitting area and garden for the Columbus St. Anthony Church grounds, with the help of many volunteers. The space was named in honor of longtime parishioners Bob and Marge Snopik.

Photo courtesy St. Anthony Church

St. Michael School honors veterans

Worthington St. Michael School students practiced the virtue of patriotism on Veterans Day. Students honored veterans by sharing photos of relatives and friends who served in the military and expressed gratitude for all veterans’ sacrifices and service.

Photo courtesy St. Michael School
Dear Friends,

Thanksgiving…A time to thank God for all the Blessings he has bestowed on us and for all he has allowed us to do. Traditionally, it is also a time to get together with family and friends to celebrate and give thanks, but this year has been different and challenging. Most will probably celebrate in small groups and share thanks with friends and family thru social media. We at Catholic Cemeteries of Columbus would like to take this opportunity to wish a Happy and Healthy Thanksgiving to you and yours!

Sincerely,
Your Catholic Cemeteries

Potted Poinsettias are being purchased to decorate Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel at St. Joseph Cemetery, the Chapel Mausoleum at Resurrection Cemetery and the Chapel Mausoleum at Holy Cross Cemetery. These brilliant scarlet plants are available in the 6 1/2” pot which contains two plants consisting of 4-8 blooms. To donate a poinsettia in memory of your special loved ones, see the coupon below. We will tag your plant with your loved one’s name. You may then pick up your poinsettia any time after January 1st, should you wish to take it home.

OFFICE HOURS: M-F 8AM - 4:30 PM, Sat 8 AM – Noon

□ Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel/St. Joseph Cemetery
  6440 S. High St./LockbourneOH 43137
  614-491-2751

□ Chapel Mausoleum/Resurrection Cemetery
  9571 N. High St./Lewis Center, OH 43035
  614-888-1805

□ Chapel Mausoleum/Holy Cross Cemetery
  11539 Nat. Rd. S.W./Pataskala, OH 43062
  740-927-4442

Please return this coupon with a $15.00 donation to the cemetery of your choice . . . thank you.

Your name

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