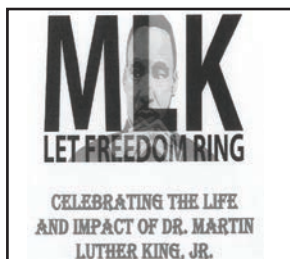


The Catholic **TIMES**

The Diocese of Columbus' News Source

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Inside this issue



MLK Day:
The annual Martin Luther King Day celebration at Columbus Holy Rosary-St. John Church, the oldest such event in central Ohio, will be held virtually this year as the national civic holiday approaches on Monday, Jan. 18, Page 2



Domestic church:
A series of articles on the "Liturgy of the Domestic Church" written by Dr. Greg Popcak and promoted by the diocesan Office for Marriage and Family Life begins this week and continues for the next eight months, Page 3



January saints:
Sts. Timothy and Titus, whose feast day is Jan. 26, shared a special relationship with St. Paul, who considered them his spiritual sons, and they courageously lived out the Gospel message, Page 5



ANNUAL DIOCESAN RESPECT LIFE MASS, ROE REMEMBRANCE SET FOR JAN. 22

Pages 8-10

Local news and events

Holy Rosary-St. John to celebrate MLK Day online

Father Reynaldo S. Taylor (pictured), pastor of Cincinnati St. Joseph Church, will be the featured speaker at the annual Martin Luther King Day celebration sponsored online this year by Columbus Holy Rosary-St. John Church.



Bishop Robert Brennan and Father Ramon Ower, pastor of the church, will provide welcome and opening remarks. Parish music director Vernon Hairston will share musical selections and members of the parish will deliver readings from Scripture and the writings of Dr. King.

The program is available for viewing on the church's website, www.hrsj.org.

Holy Rosary-St. John has been honoring Martin Luther King Day every year since the holiday was established in 1986, making its celebration the oldest such event in Columbus.

Principal organist appointed at St. Joseph Cathedral

Amanda Mole has been appointed as assistant music director and principal organist at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, effective Monday, Jan. 25.

She succeeds Nicole Simental, who is leaving the position to enter the first stage of formation with the Order of the Most Holy Savior, better known as the Bridgettine Sisters.

Mole comes to Columbus from Rochester, New York, where she has been music director at St. Michael Catholic Church.

She has toured as a concert organist throughout the United States, Europe and Japan, and recently performed a concert at the cathedral.

She also has been in many international competitions, winning first prize at the 2017 International Musashino-Tokyo Organ Competition, first place and the audience prize at

the 2016 Miami International Organ Competition, and first place at the Arthur Poister Organ Competition and John Rodland Memorial Organ Competition, both in 2014.

Ohio Dominican conducting drive-thru admission day

Students interested in enrolling at Ohio Dominican University (ODU) will have an opportunity to begin or complete the admission process from the comfort of their car during "Drive-Thru ODU" on Monday, Feb. 15. The event is free and open to any high school or college student who wishes to enroll at or transfer to ODU during the summer or fall semesters of 2021.

Participants are invited to visit ODU's campus between 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. or 3 and 4:30 p.m. The event will take place in the gold parking lot beside the Bishop Griffin

Student Center at 1215 Sunbury Road, Columbus.

Participants will have an opportunity to complete ODU's free application; receive an on-the-spot admission decision (for those who begin the admission process online); discuss their financial aid package; and submit their deposit to become an ODU student

To learn more or to register, visit ohiodominican.edu/DriveThru. For more information, contact admissions@ohiodominican.edu or (614) 251-4500. Learn more about the benefits of transferring to ODU at ohiodominican.edu/Transfer.

Ohio Dominican, diocese announce partnership

Ohio Dominican University (ODU) has partnered with the Diocese of Columbus to offer teachers, staff and administrators in diocesan schools, as well as their spouses and dependents, an opportunity to complete a number of graduate degrees at a discounted rate.

ODU's educational partnership program gives corporations, government

agencies and nonprofit organizations the ability to provide employees with continuing education options to help their organization foster innovation, identify and keep top talent and provide employees with the opportunity to enhance their professional credentials.

Employees of Columbus diocesan schools, as well as their spouses and dependents, will be able to waive their application fee to ODU and to take as many as three master's-level classes tuition-free. Groups of at least 15 participants may take as many as three courses tuition-free, and individuals may take one or two tuition-free courses.

Start dates for the courses are flexible, and the options of attending class on ODU's campus during the evening, online, or possibly on-site at a Columbus diocesan location are available.

Participants may choose to pursue one of several graduate degrees available at ODU, including Master of Education degrees in curriculum and instruction or in educational leadership; Master of Arts degrees in English, teaching English to speakers of other languages or theology; a Master of Business Administration degree; or a Master of Science degree in sport management.

"As Columbus' only comprehensive Catholic university, it is fitting that we seek creative and effective ways to partner with schools within the Diocese of Columbus to provide their dedicated teachers, staff and employees the opportunity to enhance their credentials, which ultimately enhances the overall experience of its students," said ODU's president, Dr. Robert Gervasi.

"We are very pleased that ODU will offer its educational partnership program to our Catholic school staff and families," said diocesan school Superintendent Adam Dufault. "The capability to provide ODU's outstanding graduate course work at a discounted rate is a great benefit to our community, and the program will contribute greatly in

our mission to provide both academic excellence and an authentic Catholic education experience to our students."

24-hour vigil scheduled at Mattingly Settlement

A 24-hour vigil for life will take place at Mattingly Settlement St. Mary Church, 6280 St. Mary Road (off Creamery Road), near Nashport, to coincide with the anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision. It will start with Mass at 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 21 and continue until 6 p.m. Friday Jan. 22.

The Eucharist will be exposed for that entire period. It is necessary to have two persons present at all times.

The vigil coincides with the diocesan pro-life Mass at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on Jan. 22 and with the day of prayer for the legal protection of unborn children being observed by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops on that day.

Sacred Heart adds weekday Mass, Adoration, confession

Columbus Sacred Heart Church, 893 Hamlet St., added an 8 p.m. Mass from Monday through Thursday each week. Mass is preceded by Eucharistic Adoration from 7 to 8 p.m., with confessions heard during Adoration.

Daughters of Peter Claver assist YWCA shelter

The Junior Daughters of the Knights of St. Peter Claver Court 298 collected boxes of baby supplies and personal care items for families staying at the YWCA Family Shelter in Columbus.

They delivered pandemic essentials such as disinfectant wipes, masks, hand sanitizer, toilet paper and hair care and feminine hygiene products, plus sippy cups for children, baby food and baby wipes. The organization includes members from Columbus St. Dominic, Holy Rosary-St. John and St. Thomas the Apostle churches.



Front Page photo:

RESPECT LIFE
The Respect Life Mass at St. Joseph Cathedral and the Roe Remembrance at the Statehouse will take place on Friday, Jan. 22, the anniversary of the Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade ruling. *CT file photo*

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Society for Propagation of the Faith membership benefits missionaries

By Sister Zephрина Mary GracyKutty, FIH
Director, Diocesan Missions Office

Jan. 16-17 is membership renewal weekend for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. Society members, living or deceased, receive the graces of 15,000 Masses offered each day by missionaries. In addition, Mass is offered daily in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome for society members.

To join the society, or to renew your membership, you can enclose your donation in the "Membership Sunday" envelope for the missions, which is included in your parish's January packet of collection envelopes.

The COVID-19 global pandemic has affected all ministries, and we are called to respond to those affected by it. These efforts, however, cannot take us away from our priorities, and we can collaborate with others in heroic

works of charity.

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith was founded in 1822 by a French girl named Pauline Jaricot who wished to support the missions. Her plan was to form groups of 10 persons into "circles," each of whom would organize another group of 10. These groups would be formed into units of 100 and the hundreds into thousands, each with its own leader.

Every group member was expected to make a weekly monetary offering to, and pray daily for, the missions. This became known as the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. Jaricot had a brilliant vision for economic and social renewal in a time when the Church was reaching out to evangelize the remotest corners of the world. Her idea greatly contributed to the life

See SOCIETY, Page 16

Message from the Bishop

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Through the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, we partake in the Church's mission to bring the message of God's Kingdom of love, mercy and forgiveness. The weekend of Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 16-17 will be when the membership drive of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith takes place.

With our membership, we make a special commitment to the Church's mission "to all peoples and nations" by pledging daily prayer and financial help to the Society. The mission dioceses worldwide, priests, religious brothers and sisters, and lay catechists rely on the prayers and financial assistance of the Society's members.

During this COVID-19 pandemic, the missionaries count on your support as they help young people search for the meaning of life, comfort refugees in their spiritual and

material needs, minister to the sick, teach children, prepare adults for baptism, and bring help to the suffering in this time of challenges. I implore you to support missionaries to bring God's presence to the abandoned, marginalized and neglected.

I invite all of you to respond in the most generous way you are able. Most grateful to you for your continuing generosity and support, especially in this time of affliction.

I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Robert J. Brennan
Bishop of Columbus



How do we begin renewing Catholic family life?

This column is the first in a series of eight articles on the "Liturgy of the Domestic Church" that will take you through aspects of making your home a domestic church and living Catholic family life. For questions or to learn more, contact the Diocesan Marriage & Family Life Office at 614-241-2560 or familylife@columbuscatholic.org.

By Greg Popcak

Jesus is standing at the door of your home. Do you know how to let him in?

Generally speaking, Catholics tend to think of family life as a distraction from living a holy life. We think Church is the place we encounter Christ and our parish or community is where we do ministry. Home is mostly just in the way.

But that isn't how it's meant to be. The Church says that your family is meant to be a "domestic church." Assuming your participation in the sacramental life of the church, your home is meant to be the primary place you encounter Christ in your day-to-day life. Your family life is an actual ministry of the church (*Familiaris Consortio* #39).

That probably sounds great in theory, but what does it mean in real life?

In July 2019, my organization, CatholicCounselors.com, hosted the Symposium on Catholic Family Life and Spirituality at the University of Notre Dame. Sponsored by the Our

Sunday Visitor Institute, Holy Cross Family Ministries and the McGrath Institute for Church Life, the Symposium was a gathering of more than 50 theologians, social scientists and pastoral ministry professionals who have an international reputation for their writings on family and faith. The Symposium's mission was to develop a vision for renewing Catholic family life. To accomplish our goal, we focused on four critical questions.

1. Are Catholic families meant to relate differently to each other than our non-Catholic counterparts? If so, how?

2. Because most of what we think of as "Catholic spirituality" is drawn from the monastic and clerical traditions, it doesn't fit neatly into messy family life. What would an authentic, family-based spirituality actually look like?

3. Most of our ministry efforts as a Church are spent chasing after sheep that should never have been lost in the first place; kids raised in Catholic households. How can Catholic families do a better job of practicing intentional discipleship at home and raising the next generation of intentional disciples?

4. How can Catholic families become what the Church says they're meant to be; namely, the primary engines of evangelization and outposts of positive social change?

Remarkably, these questions have never been explored in a systematic way in the history of the Church. Although -- largely thanks to St. John

Paul -- Catholicism has a well-developed theology of family, what that theology actually means, practically speaking, to the average Catholic family hasn't been developed in any meaningful way.

As a result of the discussions that resulted in response to these questions, we were blessed to be able to emerge from the Symposium with a new vision for both Catholic family spirituality and family ministry. This vision reflects both an authentically Catholic theology of family and the best insights the social sciences have to offer regarding what it takes to create a truly healthy, dynamic, faithful family life and pass our faith on to our kids. Likewise, instead of saying "every family has to do X," the model offers a framework that allows families to bring their own unique experiences, life and culture to bear on it. In a sense, the model allows every Catholic family to sing from the same sheet of music, even though you might play the song on different instruments and arrange it and harmonize with it in your own unique way.

We call this vision the Liturgy of Domestic Church Life. Other authors, most notably, Cardinal Marc Ouellet in his book, *Divine Likeness*, have argued that Catholic family life is liturgical. Our model builds on this idea and describes the different rites (i.e., building blocks) that make up the lit-

urgy of your domestic church.

The word "liturgy" means "public act of worship." To say that your family life is liturgical means that when your family is filled with sacramental grace and united in the mission of sharing Christ's love with each other and the world, every part of your family life becomes a way to worship God and experience him more meaningfully. The Liturgy of Domestic Church Life helps families experience everything we do -- from changing diapers, to making meals, to paying bills, to maintaining the home and raising kids, and all the rest -- as a little way of holiness and an actual ministry that builds the Kingdom of God.

In the next few columns, I'll unpack how you can live this vision in your home. For now, just know that Jesus is knocking on your door longing to be invited to be part of your family. Invite him in. Let him show you how to transform your messy family life into a dynamic domestic church. Learn how at our Facebook Discussion Group: CatholicHOM—Family Discipleship.

Greg Popcak is the executive director of the Peyton Institute for Domestic Church Life (PeytonFamilyInstitute.org) and members of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops National Advisory Board for Marriage and Family Ministry.

New year – new thoughts

As 2021 begins, our focus should be on how we can make this new year better than the last. I initially thought that it would be a very low bar. After the rioting at the nation's capital last Wednesday, I have had to rethink that; however, I believe it can be done. I want us to realize that we can be both a masterpiece and a work in progress. We are called to read the signs of the times and, with a strong understanding of Catholic Social Teaching, we are to respond to the challenges before us and in order to move closer to God's kingdom.

Pope Francis reminds us that "Hope is bold." – (Fratelli Tutti 55) So the question is, how can we make the most of the new year – a better year for us all? In the same document, he calls us to **prepare the future** not just prepare for the future.

For this Catholic calendar year, Pope Francis has given us a model – St. Joseph – with his December 8 decree entitled *Patris Corde* ("With a father's heart").

In the Gospels, St. Joseph appears as a strong and courageous man, a working man, yet in his heart there is great tenderness that is not the virtue of the weak but rather a sign of strength of spirit and a capacity for concern, for compassion, for genuine openness to others, for love.

Pope Pius IX proclaimed St. Joseph patron of the Universal Church on Dec. 8, 1870 (in the decree *Quemadmodum Deus*).

A Year of St. Joseph is in honor of the 150th anniversary of the saint's proclamation as patron of the Universal Church. According to his decree, our pope established a Year of St. Joseph so that "every member of the faithful, following his example, may

FAITH IN ACTION

Erin Cordle

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strengthen their life of faith daily in the complete fulfillment of God's will."

This makes sense as we end the first year of a pandemic by realizing that many people have made hidden sacrifices during the crisis in order to protect others – just as St. Joseph protected Jesus as he grew up.

So I think each of us can discover in Joseph -- the person who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet, and hidden presence as an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble. Someone we can emulate.

St. Joseph reminds us that those who appear hidden or in the shadows can play an incomparable role in each other's lives.

So how can we make this new year the best? Consider spending some time meditating on one or more of the following. How can I:

- Make this new year be better than last year – better for all of us?
- Include those who are missing from the center – who are still marginalized?
- Be more active – even a small response help – do something nice, thank someone, smile?
- Be more grateful – remember that the greatest prayer is one of thanksgiving?
- Keep learning – be open to new things?
- Not get so busy that I miss important opportu-

nities?

-- Take notice of what's going on around me – savor the moment?

Pope Francis' decree reaffirms St. Joseph's patronage in the Church and also grants a plenary indulgence to Catholics who recite any approved prayer or act of piety in honor of St. Joseph, especially on March 19, the saint's solemnity date, and May 1, the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker.

The three conditions for receiving a plenary indulgence are sacramental confession, the reception of Holy Communion and prayer for the pope's intentions.

I like this addition, "In the current context of health emergency, the gift of the plenary indulgence is particularly extended to the elderly, the sick, the dying and all those who for legitimate reasons are unable to leave the house, who, with a soul detached from any sin and with the intention of fulfilling, as soon as possible, the three usual conditions, in their own home or where the impediment keeps them, may recite an act of piety in honor of St. Joseph, comfort of the sick and patron of a happy death, offering with trust in God the pains and discomforts of their lives."

Please remember: Pope Francis calls us to prepare the future not just prepare for the future.

A prayer to St. Joseph: Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen.

Blessings of televised Christmas Mass: Childlike faith, gift of Jesus in Eucharist

By Michele Williams

Christmas and New Year's have come and gone. The holiday decorations have been packed up and put away. New Year's resolutions have been made and possibly broken by now. But I want you to think back and remember Christmas Day. Close your eyes and picture what you were doing, who you were with, what you prayed for, how you felt. What are your best memories?

Here is one of mine: watching Christmas Mass from St. Joseph Cathedral on NBC4. I watched it with five other Catholics in our living unit's rec room inside the Ohio Reformatory for Women. We had the rec room to ourselves for the hour so we could participate freely and comfortably. I was quite grateful to the unit staff for allowing that to happen. And, I knew my parents were watching the Mass at home, so we were together in spirit.

The first thing that got our tiny inmate congregation's attention was when Bishop Brennan blessed the altar with incense. As he raised the thurible and swung it, the sound of light clanging against the chain was audible. But what

was so incredible was that every single one of us could smell the incense - all the way in Marysville! The rec room was suddenly perfumed and that kind of sensory miracle could have only come from God. It was truly wondrous.

As Mass continued, I realized a few differences that I had forgotten over the years. In ORW, we don't have pews or kneelers, and the concrete floor is very unforgiving, so we stand instead of kneel. Being a musician, I remain parked behind the piano except for the Gospel reading, so I am quite out of practice with the sit/kneel/stand routine. My peers have conformed to the prison version as well, so we pretty much stayed in our chairs.

The best part of the televised Mass for me is not what you may think. Without question, Bishop Brennan's homily was heartfelt and comforting. I was very encouraged by his words and prayers. Definitely, the decorations were beautiful, the music was heavenly, and the creche was just as it should be, with all the figures in their proper places (as opposed to the one in Mom and Dad's living room with the cow in the hayloft).

For me, the best part of Mass was

when the camera panned the congregation, which was small and spread throughout the cathedral. There was a family with a little girl in a red Christmas dress who was climbing all over the pews. Her mother kept trying to corral her, but she would wriggle free and continue her quiet escapades. Clearly, this little angel had the requisite extra-high energy of a 4-year-old at Christmas Mass, and her mom was no match for that.

I only saw her play in the pews for a few moments, but it had a profound impact on me. It made the Mass experience much more natural and whole. It completed the scene and brought it to life. What is Christmas Mass without innocent children climbing around on everything and trying to get a better look at baby Jesus in the manger? I miss being in an actual church with entire families. I'd give anything to be there with mine because it has been 27 years since we attended Mass together.

There's nothing wrong with ORW's tin-walled, multi-purpose, non-denominational building that houses the chapel, but it certainly doesn't have the same feng shui. We make do with what we have, though, and for an hour

a week, the chapel is distinctly Catholic. I really look forward to returning to in-person Masses; it is one of my biggest hopes for the upcoming months. I want to play piano and lead our congregation in songs of praise and worship. I want to have that feeling of community and cohesiveness that was taken away by COVID last March.

But most of all, I want to receive the body and blood of Jesus in the Eucharist. Not just spiritually from the TV Mass, but physically, and at long last, be truly satisfied. Perhaps you can relate to that desire? Until then, I'm holding on to one particular phrase from Mass (before the changes): "... as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our savior, Jesus Christ." I'm thinking more literally in this case, because I can't wait to celebrate His coming into our small chapel and filling us with His real presence in Holy Communion at Mass again.

I pray the same for you: not only that you see Jesus in the playful toddlers, but that you can celebrate His real presence at Mass soon, too.

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

Catholic coherence, Catholic integrity

In 2007, the bishops of Latin America and the Caribbean completed their fifth general conference with a final report, known from the Brazilian city where they met as the “Aparecida Document.” Its principal authors included Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio, SJ, then the archbishop of Buenos Aires. Thanks to the efforts of the future pope and others, the Aparecida Document remains an exemplary description of what it means to be the Church of the New Evangelization – and not only in Latin America. Paragraph 436 of the Aparecida Document is of particular interest in the United States today:

We hope that legislators, heads of government, and health professionals, conscious of the dignity of human life and of the rootedness of the family in our peoples, will defend and protect it from the abominable crimes of abortion and euthanasia; that is their responsibility ... We must adhere to “Eucharistic coherence,” that is, be conscious that they (i.e., legislators, heads of government, and health professionals) cannot receive holy communion and at the same time act with deeds or words against the commandments, particularly when abortion, euthanasia, and other grave crimes against life and the family are encouraged.

This unambiguous teaching by the bishops of Latin America was not – and should not be – a surprise. Three years earlier, in 2004, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger sent a letter to the bishops of the United States, quoting and reaffirming a 2002 declaration by the Pontifical Council for Legislative Texts that addressed the issue of Eucharistic coherence with specific reference to Catholic public officials:

Regarding the grave sin of abortion or euthanasia, when a person’s formal cooperation becomes manifest (understood, in the case of a Catholic politician, as his persistently campaigning and voting

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE George Weigel

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for permissive abortion and euthanasia laws), his pastor should meet with him, instructing him about the Church’s teaching, informing him that he is not to present himself for Holy Communion until he brings to an end the objective situation of sin, and warning him that he will otherwise be denied the Eucharist.

When “the precautionary measures have not had their effect or in (circumstances in) which they were not possible,” and the person in question, with obstinate persistence, still present himself to receive the Holy Eucharist, “the minister of Holy Communion must refuse to distribute it” ... This decision, properly speaking, is not a sanction or penalty. Nor is the minister of Holy Communion passing judgment on the person’s subjective guilt but rather is reacting to the person’s public unworthiness to receive Holy Communion due to an objective situation of sin.

In 2002 as well, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith issued a “Doctrinal Note on some questions regarding the participation of Catholics in political life” (signed by Cardinal Ratzinger and published by order of Pope John Paul II), which complemented the Church’s ancient and settled understanding of “Eucharistic coherence” with a plea for Catholic public officials to be “morally coherent.”

It would be a mistake to confuse the proper autonomy exercised by Catholics in political life with the claim of a principle that prescind from the moral and social teaching of the Church. ... It is a question of the lay Catholic’s duty to be morally coherent, found within one’s conscience, which is one and indivisible. (As the Second Vatican Council’s Decree on the Lay Apostolate taught), “There cannot be two parallel lives in their existence: on the one hand, the so-called ‘spiritual life,’ with its values and demands; and on the other, the so-called ‘secular life,’ that is, life in a family, at work, in social responsibilities, in the responsibilities of public life and in culture.”

As the Aparecida Document and the CDF Doctrinal Note demonstrate, concern for the Church’s Eucharistic coherence in situations in which Catholic public officials facilitate grave evils yet insist on receiving Holy Communion is not the personal crotchet of certain American bishops; it is the universal Church’s concern, because it involves the integrity of the sacramental sources of the Church’s life. Aparecida and CDF underscore that bishops who maintain the Church’s Eucharistic integrity and coherence are not acting politically or punitively; those bishops are calling the entire Church to deeper conversion while expressing appropriate, indeed necessary, concern for the spiritual well-being and moral coherence of those under their pastoral care. Both Aparecida and CDF stress that the moral gravity of the life issues is distinctive, such that appeals to Catholic officials’ positions on other contested matters of public policy (e.g., climate change, immigration policy) are unwarranted.

Serious Catholics – public officials and ordinary citizens – will understand these things and conduct themselves accordingly in the challenging months ahead.

Timothy and Titus: St. Paul’s spiritual sons

By MaryBeth Eberhard

It is the desire of all Christian parents that their children not only know the Lord but also live his Gospel in all that they think, speak and do. Imparting this knowledge and helping them to strengthen this relationship with Christ is no easy task.

Sts. Timothy and Titus cannot be understood without including the special relationship they shared with St. Paul, who, through his time with them, considered them his spiritual sons and called for them during his last hours on earth.

The letters to Timothy and Titus are some of Paul’s last. The difference between his earlier letters, such as those to the Corinthians, and the letters to Timothy and Titus is the starkness in approach. The letters to the Romans, Galatians and Ephesians are all direct in their communication. The letters to Timothy and Titus, however, exude a simple tenderness that gives us a glimpse of a special relationship, and, because we know that everything in Scripture serves a purpose and time, I have been reflecting on this relationship.

Timothy was a young missionary for the Church. He was a gentle soul whose Jewish grandmother and mother imparted to him a strong knowledge of Scripture. His zeal and knowledge caught the atten-

WALKING WITH THE SAINTS

tion of Paul during one of his trips to Lystra, which was a city in what is now Turkey. Timothy has been described as a softer soul and one whose compassion, charity and knowledge allowed him to speak to different classes of people.

He was a trusted companion of Paul’s, being left to teach the faith in Philippi, Thessalonica and Berea. Toward the end of his life, Paul called Timothy to him, thus showing that Paul considered Timothy a spiritual son. The two letters written to Timothy are tender in nature, and the way Paul imparts his words onto paper signifies a growth and maturation in his own spiritual journey.

He reminds Timothy of the gifts given to him (2 Timothy 1:7) and to stay strong in adversity and bear witness to the Gospel (2 Timothy 2:3). The parental undertones of Paul’s writing are recognized by any parent whose desire is for the salvation of their children’s souls.

Titus is a figure of strong disposition and fierce intellect who grew up Greek and a gentile. Paul brought him to Jerusalem; it was the example of Titus that argued against the doctrine that one must

first become Jewish to become Christian.

Titus spoke out prominently against paganism, and his prayers and preaching formed many hearts to Christ. Paul’s letter to Titus is a reflection of the tenderness, trust and affection he had for Titus, as well. The letter is a short three chapters but with each word carefully selected to impart a deep understanding of Christ Jesus and the formation of the early Church (Titus 3:4-8). Titus 2:3-5 describes my goal of being a woman. Paul is gentle and firm, giving sound reasons but not sending those who struggle to fire and brimstone.

In times such as these when many are dying, I am reflecting on the importance of raising my children in the ways of Sts. Timothy and Titus. As a mom of many, I can look at my children and see both of these personalities represented – and a few other saintly friends, too.

Whether it be in regard to my tenderhearted child or my firm, resolute and rule-bound one, my mission as a parent is to impart the faith so that it lives within my children. Timothy and Titus took Paul’s teaching and courageously lived out the Gospel of Christ. St. Timothy was martyred for his faith; St. Titus died peacefully in old age.

Their feast day is Jan. 26. They are the patron saints of stomach illnesses.

Pilgrimages might resume later this year

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

Travel restrictions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic put an end to any pilgrimages scheduled after mid-March in 2020. But now that several vaccines to counter the virus have been developed, travel planners are cautiously planning for pilgrims to begin visiting holy sites later this year.

Donna Jollay of Columbus-based Jerusalem Tours, which has specialized in faith-oriented pilgrimages to the Holy Land, Italy, Greece, Turkey, Fatima, Lourdes and elsewhere for more than 40 years, said the company has about 30 religion-based tours planned for this year, most in the fall. Three of them, all to the Holy Land, will be led by Catholic priests, one of whom is Father Tom Gardner, parochial vicar at New Philadelphia Sacred Heart and Dennison Immaculate Conception churches. His pilgrimage will take place Nov. 8-17.

Jollay said Jerusalem Tours has scheduled 12 Catholic-oriented pilgrimages for 2022. Three will be to the Holy Land. The other nine will be to Europe, and all will include the 42nd renewal of the famed passion play in Oberammergau, Germany, that is presented once every 10 years from mid-May to early October.

The passion play was to have been performed in 2020, but the COVID-19 pandemic forced a two-year postponement. The villagers of Oberammergau began staging the play in 1634 in thanks for being spared from the bubonic plague that raged through Europe in the late 1620s and early 1630s as a result of that era's Thirty Years' War, killing untold millions. The five-hour, open-air production involves more than 2,000 people – about half the population of Oberammergau.

Priests leading pilgrimages for Jerusalem Tours next year include Father Peter Asantebwana, parochial vicar of Gahanna St. Matthew Church, and Father Peter Gideon of Lancaster St. Mark Church, both of whom were to have led trips to the passion play and elsewhere in 2020. Other tours sponsored by the company will be led by Suanne Gettings, pastoral associate at the New Albany Church of the Resurrection, and Katy Wyatt, former youth minister at the same parish.

“People are chomping at the bit” to go on pilgrimages once it becomes safe to travel overseas again, Jollay said. “These are their trips of a lifetime, particularly for Catholics because they are such a long-standing and ingrained

part of Catholic tradition. No one can travel now, and there are still so many unknowns that we can't say when travel will resume, but the development of vaccines is causing great optimism, and the floodgates for tourism will open once enough people are vaccinated.”

For more information about Jerusalem Tours, go to www.jerusalemstours.com or call (888) 773-3133.

Verso Ministries of South Bend, Indiana, had more than 20 pilgrimages planned for 2020 and was able to complete four – two to the Holy Land, one high-school pilgrimage to Greece and one pilgrimage for young adults to Catholic-related sites in Kentucky – before the pandemic hit in mid-March.

Stephanie Petrie, the company's associate director of operations, said it also canceled seven pilgrimages scheduled in the first five months of this year. It's hoping to resume its schedule in June with a visit to Ireland for young adults, co-hosted by the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, and a pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

If travel has resumed, the company hopes to host at least a dozen more pilgrimages to the Holy Land, Italy, France, Ireland and the Camino de Santiago in Spain. This year has been proclaimed a Holy Year for the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela, which is the site of the tomb of St. James the Apostle and the destination for the Camino pilgrimage route. This means pilgrims who walk the Camino route and pass through the cathedral's Holy Door are granted a plenary indulgence on meeting the conditions of a making sacramental confession and receiving Communion, attending Mass, and praying for the pope's intentions.

“We're hopefully optimistic,” Petrie said. “Most pilgrims who planned to travel with us in 2020 signed up for the same trips this year. We're also planning more than 25 pilgrimages for 2022 and making plans for World Youth Day in Lisbon,” which was moved from 2022 to 2023.

Verso was founded in 2016 by its current chief executive officer, John Paul Lichon, former director of pilgrimages and retreats for the University of Notre Dame. He said he was inspired by past World Youth Day events to start the company.

In response to COVID-19, the company offers safe-travel, money-back and flexible-departure programs designed to ensure traveler satisfaction. Details of those and of Verso's upcoming pilgrimages are available at www.versoministries.com

or by calling (574) 383-9396.

Father Milton Kiocha, AJ, parochial vicar of Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church, hopes to lead a group to his native Tanzania for a two-week pilgrimage late this year that will combine service and tourism.

Father Kiocha for several years has raised funds to support the education of orphans from grade school to college age and the creation of income-generating projects such as raising chickens and eggs for poor families in the Tanzanian municipality of Moshi, at the foot of Mount Kilimanjaro.

During his planned visit, he and his fellow pilgrims will spend about a week paving an elementary school playground in the village of Mrawi. He said the project will cost about \$25,000, about \$4,000 of which has been raised. “The children come to school dressed wearing white shirts and dress pants every day, but by the time they're done playing in the unpaved area that's available, everyone's a mess,” he said. “So we're going to fix that. The students seem to learn better when they look well, and their parents will appreciate not having to get so much dust and mud out of the children's clothes.”

The trip also will include five days on safari at Gorongosa National Park in Mozambique. Gorongosa is one of the most biodiverse places on the planet. Visitors have a chance to see everything from lions, elephants, hippos and zebras in their natural environment to creatures such as katydids, pygmy chameleons, worm lizards and a green-headed oriole that are all unique to Gorongosa.

The trip was to have taken place in June 2020, with about a dozen people signed up. “The coronavirus put everything on hold, and now we're aiming for December of this year,” Father Kiocha said. “But, of course, that depends on how the virus is affecting things, for we won't put anyone in danger. We do have room for more people.”

To learn more about the service/safari pilgrimage, call Father Kiocha at (330) 319-1205 or John Swisher at (614) 477-7730.

Cindy Lane of Columbus will be leading her 21st trip to the well-known pilgrimage site of Medjugorje, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Oct. 11-22. She said five priests and two deacons (who may have been ordained priests by that point) and perhaps two women religious from the Diocese of Columbus plan to be among the pilgrims.

The priests include Father Stash Dailey, pastor of Columbus Holy Family Church and diocesan vicar for religious; Father Christopher Yakkell, parochial vicar for the Perry County Consortium of Parishes; and Father Fritzner Valcin, administrator of Columbus St. Francis of Assisi Church.

The Virgin Mary is said to have appeared to six young people at Medjugorje in 1981. The Vatican has yet to rule on the authenticity of the apparitions, but in 2019, it permitted organized pilgrimages to the site, saying that for countless pilgrims, Medjugorje has been a place of authentic prayer and spiritual deepening, and that many visitors to the site have experienced “abundant fruits of grace.”

Lane said that until she first visited Medjugorje in 1990, she attended Mass occasionally, and that was the extent of her practice of the faith. Her pilgrimage there led to a hunger to learn more about the Church, and, until last year, she had returned to the site every year. She began leading pilgrimages there in 2009. Her most recent visit had 53 pilgrims, including two priests and a Dominican sister.

Lane may be reached at (614) 361-1042 or cynthialane1@outlook.com.

Proximo Travel, based in Auburn, Massachusetts, had 250 pilgrimages scheduled for 2020 that were rescheduled to this year and 2022, said company representative Anthony Emilio.

He also said the company plans 50 other pilgrimages this year, if conditions permit. Its first scheduled pilgrimage will be April 5-15 to the Holy Land. Emilio said each of the company's pilgrimages is led by a priest, with this year's schedule including 13 pilgrimages to either Europe, the Holy Land or Guadalupe in Mexico, which will have an Ohio priest as chaplain.

More information is available at www.proximotravel.com or by calling (440) 457-7033.

Lourdes among online pilgrimages

The Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes in France will host a worldwide online pilgrimage on July 16, the anniversary of the Virgin Mary's final apparition to St. Bernadette Soubirous in 1858. It will be livestreamed for 15 hours at www.lourdes-france.org/en/lourdes-united.

Several other places important to Catholics are offering some kind of virtual visit or livestreaming service.

Msgr. Sorohan remembered as pastor, educator, friend

The funeral Mass for Msgr. David V. Sorohan, 86, who died on Christmas Day, Friday, Dec. 25, was celebrated Thursday, Dec. 31, at Columbus St. Catharine Church.

Msgr. Sorohan was the church's pastor from 1988 until his retirement in 2004 and continued to serve the parish until 2018, when he moved to the Villas at St. Therese in Columbus. He was in attendance on July 25, 2020, when Bishop Robert Brennan dedicated the parish's new parish center, known as the Sorohan Center, and blessed its new Eucharistic Adoration chapel.

Bishop Brennan was principal celebrant of Msgr. Sorohan's funeral Mass, and Father Michael Lumpe, his successor as the parish's pastor, was the homilist.

Excerpts from Father Lumpe's homily follow:

"First off, this would not be a Msgr. Sorohan liturgy without one of the things he loved to say at Mass, especially at Masses involving schoolchildren – 'God is good, all the time.' So true. ...

"Now I think it is a safe bet that everyone in this church today and those who are watching us on livestream via YouTube and Facebook ... all have at least a dozen or two stories about Msgr. Sorohan that have brought a smile to our faces since we learned of his death, and if you're like me, the additional news of his passing brought tears. ...

"You start thinking about this wonderful priest and friend named Msgr. David Sorohan ... and notice that he was always standing shoulder to shoulder with anyone in times of challenge or sorrow, and it didn't matter who you were, Msgr. Sorohan treated everyone the same.

"Then there are all the Sorohanisms that we've heard throughout the years, all the little jokes and pranks that Monsignor would play from time to time, and all the little courtesies that he extended and kindnesses, and all that he did as a priest and witness to Christ our Savior, and all of the love from his huge heart that he gave to us all. ...

"After Monsignor died, I drove down to the Chancery to pull Monsignor's file to look up his funeral plans ... and I was intrigued that his desired prayer for his prayer card was not from St. Patrick or another Irish saint.

"As we all know, Monsignor would let just a peek from time to time of his Irish heritage show, and I was ex-

pecting St. Patrick's Breastplate or the Irish blessing, but instead, he had a prayer composed by a Dominican saint – St. Thomas Aquinas.

"Why? Well, the prayer that you see on Monsignor's prayer card is a prayer that he prayed often at the beginning of the day and he prayed it from his heart, so let's connect the dots a little bit about this prayer.

"This prayer is a tip of Monsignor's hat to his Perry County roots, where he grew up in New Lexington – the county where the first Catholic Mass in Ohio was celebrated in Somerset in 1808 by a Dominican priest, Father Edward Fenwick. ...

"Besides Monsignor and his buddy, Msgr. (Anthony) Missimi, being part of a state championship basketball team back in 1954, which brought great fame to Perry County, Monsignor was very proud of being part of what's called the cradle of Catholicism in Ohio, and he prayed this prayer every day in the morning. ...

"It's a simple prayer: 'Grant me, O Lord my God, a mind to know you, a heart to seek you, wisdom to find you, conduct pleasing to you, faithful perseverance in waiting for you, and a hope of finally embracing you.' ...

"I think any of us know that Monsignor had many things he valued, but in particular his Perry County roots, his faith, his family and his friends. He enjoyed a good game of golf, riding his Vespa ... and having a meal and conversation with friends – sports, especially Notre Dame football.

"He valued education, especially Catholic education. ... Notice in his obituary that Monsignor requested, in lieu of flowers, that donations may be made to support tuition funds here at St. Catharine School and at the school of his youth, St. Rose of Lima School in New Lexington. ...

"We've all been taught to live a life of love and to put that teaching into practice day in and day out, no matter how challenging it may be, and we are called to live that life of love that Jesus has taught us, not the way of the world. So much love, according to the way of the world, is empty and focuses on self – self and things that may actually lead us to sin.

"But love is designed by Christ as simple: Love God above all things and love your neighbor as yourself, loving God as God loves us, loving your neighbor, whomever that hap-

pens to be, and always looking to see the face of Christ in one another by doing what we can to help one another, and to do so out of love.

"Anyone who was close to Monsignor knew of his increasing concern for the growing tide of individualism in this world – the trinity of me, myself and I and the mantra of doing what I want when and how I want it, with little or no discernment or thought on the consequences of our actions – no concern for God or Church teaching, or anyone else.

"Retired St. Catharine School principal Janet Weisner used to remind her students that choices have consequences, and if Monsignor ever counseled you not to do something, it was because he did not want you to bring harm to yourself or others, or to sin. And you may not have wanted to hear the word 'No' from Monsignor, but if he ever said this to you, he always had your best interest at heart.

"He cared for you. He loved you, and sometimes tough love is a part of life for all of us, and it's a hard part of life, but if we truly care for one another as Christ cares for us, it is what priests do. We want to get souls to heaven and sometime, the answer is 'No,' but it's done so out of love. And if there's a lesson for us today, it might be this: Look at the life of Msgr. Sorohan.

"Monsignor would be the first one in line and admit publicly that he was not perfect, but then, none of us are. But at many points of our lives, we always seem to stop and pause and think and discern of what truly is of value to us. And Jesus Christ and his teachings always need to be at the top of that list.

"Christ's life is a life of love. Christ himself was love personified. And if we simply set forth to walk in the footsteps of Christ and follow him as he invites us to do, Christ the good shepherd will lead us where he wants to go as part of his plan, even through the valley of death, as we know in Psalm 23. ...

"On Christmas Eve morning, I got that call that Monsignor was not going to make it, despite Monsignor's desire – strong desire from his gut – and he had a strong desire to beat this thing. ... Bishop Brennan and I went out to Mount Carmel East so the bishop could administer the last rites to Monsignor. ... We went into Monsignor's room in the ICU, and as the bishop and I stood on either side of

Monsignor's bed, he said something to us that was so profound that the bishop included it in his Christmas Day homily at St. Joseph Cathedral.

"In lying on his hospital bed, knowing that he was not long for this world, good old Monsignor, a teacher to the end, he said, 'This is not what I planned, and never did I imagine that it would be like this, but it's not my plan. It's God's. And God loves us so much that he wants us back.' Still teaching us, Dave. Still teaching.

"And later that snowy Christmas Eve, I went back to Mount Carmel to see how Monsignor was doing. I ... went into his room, and ... as I approached his bed, he began to laugh. ... I said, 'Dave, what's so funny?' And he said, 'Everyone who comes in here to see me is suited up like an astronaut and I'm the one who's dying.' ...

"We laughed about the good times we shared as priests with friends, with parishioners, and then we prayed together and he asked for my blessing. One of the things that he said was 'Mike, I can't thank God enough for the love that he's given me.' He was so happy. And I told Dave that you have the opportunity to thank him in person. And I think it was around 10:00 in the evening when I left Monsignor's room, and folks, he truly was at peace. ... On Christmas morning, I got the call that Monsignor had died peacefully around 5 a.m.

"So as Monsignor was fond of saying on his birthday, which is the Solemnity of the Assumption, 'The day that Mary went up is the day I came down.' How many times did we hear that, Dave? And now we can add to that, 'The day that Jesus came down was the day that Monsignor went up.'

"And these two significant dates in the Church are great bookends of Msgr. David Vincent Sorohan's life and the many books of his life in between those bookends, which we will all remember in one way or another because he invited us to be part of his life. He invited us to share in Christ's love of us. ...

"Folks, we lost a good one, but in the end, I think we'll come out OK, as we now have gained a friend and advocate for us in heaven. And so thank you, Jesus Christ, for the service and friendship of your priest Msgr. David Vincent Sorohan, who dedicated his life to you by teaching us in tangible ways how to love God above all things and to love one another as you love us."

Respect life events to comply with pandemic guidelines

The ongoing coronavirus pandemic will impact in-person participation at annual local and national respect life events this month, but a variety of activities will continue as scheduled in somewhat different formats and with virtual viewing opportunities.

Respect Life Mass

Bishop Robert Brennan will be the principal celebrant for the diocese's annual Respect Life Mass at 10:30 a.m. Friday, Jan. 22 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St. Other bishops from the state have been invited to participate. Public attendance will be limited, but the Mass will be livestreamed at www.columbuscatholic.org and on the diocese's YouTube channel and broadcast by St. Gabriel Radio.

For more about the Mass at the cathedral, contact the diocesan Office for Social Concerns at socmail-box@columbuscatholic.org or (614) 241-2540.

Roe Remembrance

The annual Roe Remembrance, sponsored by Greater Columbus Right to Life on the 48th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision legalizing abortion, will follow the Respect Life Mass at noon on Friday, Jan. 22 on the Ohio Statehouse west lawn. This year's event will be moved outside because of COVID-19 restrictions inside the capitol. Bishop Brennan and lawmakers are scheduled to be among the speakers at the hour-long gathering, which also will be livestreamed. For updates, visit www.gctrl.org/roe.

Ross County March for Life

The fourth annual Ross County March for Life will begin at noon Friday, Jan. 22 in downtown Chillicothe.

Marchers will meet at the Water and Paint streets entrance to the City Park at 11:30 a.m. and walk down Paint Street to the Ross County Courthouse starting at 11:45. The rally is set to begin at noon and end at 1 p.m.

Pastors from local churches will offer prayers and words of encouragement for the pro-life movement, and local voices will join in singing songs of praise. Ross County Right to Life said in its announcement that "we believe is fitting for such a time as we are in as a nation. We want to come together in peace and demonstrate our love for one another and offer thanks to God for His precious gift of life."

Contact Judy Harness at judyharness53@gmail.com for questions or more information.

The local observances are part of a nationwide Day of Prayer for Legal Protection of Unborn Children on Jan. 22.

9 Days for Life novena

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops-initiated 9 Days for Life novena for respect and protection of all human persons will begin Thursday, Jan. 21 and run through Friday, Jan. 29, when the national March for Life will take place in Washington, D.C.

Intentions, short reflections, suggested actions and related information can be found starting on this page and also on Page 9. The novena is also available through email or text messaging for a mobile app at www.9daysforlife.org.

More information for individuals, parishes, schools and local pro-life leaders is available at www.respectlife.org/leaders-resources.

National Prayer Vigil for Life

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) is encouraging Catholics across the United States to observe a unified prayer vigil from Thursday, Jan. 28 to Friday, Jan. 29.

Thousands of pilgrims annually attend the National Prayer Vigil for Life preceding the national March for Life each January in Washington, D.C., at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, but the basilica will not be open to the public this year because of local attendance restrictions due to the coronavirus pandemic. And so, for the first time, in addition to the televised Mass, bishops in dioceses throughout the nation will take turns leading livestreamed holy hours throughout the all-night vigil.

The vigil will begin with a live broadcast at 8 p.m. Jan. 28 from the basilica with a rosary, followed by Mass opening the National Prayer Vigil for Life. The principal celebrant and homilist will be Archbishop Joseph Naumann of Kansas City, Kansas, chairman of the Committee on Pro-Life Activities for the USCCB.

After the Mass and throughout the night, holy hours led by bishops from various dioceses throughout the country will be broadcast on the USCCB website. The vigil concludes at 8 a.m. Jan. 29 with Mass celebrated at the basilica by Archbishop Wil-

See RESPECT LIFE, Page 9



INTERCESSION

May the tragic practice of abortion end.

PRAYERS

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be

REFLECTION

At every stage and in every circumstance, we are held in existence by God's love. The presence of an illness, disability, or other challenging situation never diminishes the value of a human life. God does not call us to perfection of appearance or abilities, but to perfection in love. Christ invites us to embrace our own lives and the lives of others as true gifts.

Abortion tragically rejects the truth that every life is a good and perfect gift, deserving protection. This violent practice ends the life of a human being at its very beginning and horribly wounds all those involved. But Christ came that we "might have life and have it more abundantly" (John 10:10), taking on human flesh for the sake of our redemption. May our culture experience the power of God's transforming love, that all eyes may be opened to the incredible beauty of every human life.

ACTS OF REPARATION (choose one)

- Take a break from television and movies today. Consider spending some of that time praying with today's reflection.
- Pray the short prayer "Every Life is Worth Living," reflecting on the gift of human life. (The prayer is also available to order or download at usccb.org/worth-living.)

Heavenly Father, thank you for the precious gift of life. Help us to cherish and protect this gift, even in the midst of fear, pain, and suffering. Give us love for all people, especially the most vulnerable, and help us bear witness to the truth that every life is worth living.

Grant us the humility to accept help when we are in need, and teach us to be merciful to all. Through our words and actions, may others encounter the outstretched hands of Your mercy. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

- Offer some other sacrifice, prayer, or act of penance that you feel called to do for today's intention.

ONE STEP FURTHER

Abortion is frequently a topic in the news, political debates, and everyday conversations with family or friends. Because abortion can be a controversial and emotional issue in any arena, many of us may feel intimidated when the topic arises, not knowing what to say. Another Look at Abortion provides a basic overview and summarizes key points. This article will help you be better prepared to witness to the sanctity of human life. respectlife.org/another-look-at-abortion.



DID YOU KNOW ?

In the Catholic Church in the United States, January 22nd is designated as a particular day of prayer and penance, called the "Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children." As Catholics, we are called to observe this day through the penitential practices of prayer, fasting, and/or giving alms.

More Information: usccb.org/january-22

INTERCESSION

May all unborn children be protected in law and welcomed in love.

PRAYERS

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be

REFLECTION

Today, on this 48th anniversary of Roe v. Wade, we mourn the many children's lives ended by abortion and remember in prayer those who suffer the aftermath. The Church comes together today to pray for the protection of all unborn children and to make reparation for abortion, trusting that the Lord hears our prayers.

The importance of prayer is reflected in *Evangelium vitae* (100), which says, "A great prayer for life is urgently needed, a prayer which will rise up throughout the world. Through special initiatives and daily prayer, may an impassioned plea rise to God, the Creator and lover of life, from every Christian community, from every group and association, from every family and from the heart of every believer" (*Evangelium vitae* 100). May that prayer arise in our hearts today and each day forward until every human being is protected in law and welcomed in love.

ACTS OF REPARATION (choose one)

- Fast from one meal today.
- Offer this brief "Prayer for Life" for all unborn children whose lives are at risk. (The prayer is also available at usccb.org/prayer-for-life.)

Father and maker of all, you adorn all creation with splendor and beauty, and fashion human lives in your image and likeness. Awaken in every heart reverence for the work of your hands, and renew among your people a readiness to

nurture and sustain your precious gift of life. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen

- Offer some other sacrifice, prayer, or act of penance that you feel called to do for today's intention.

ONE STEP FURTHER

More women and girls consider abortion than we may realize. They are our relatives and friends, people who work with us or for us. Even if someone identifies as being pro-life, the shock of an unexpected pregnancy, the devastation of a difficult prenatal diagnosis, shame, pressures, or fears may influence her to consider abortion.

If someone shared with you that she was pregnant and hadn't ruled out having an abortion, would you know how to respond in a loving way that is life-affirming for both her and her baby? Learn about the four steps of the L.O.V.E. Approach™: Listen and Learn, Open Options, Vision and Value, and Extend and Empower (respectlife.org/love).

*The L.O.V.E. Approach™ is trademarked by Heartbeat International, Inc. and may not be adapted or modified. The L.O.V.E. Approach™ is used in "When to Do When a Friend is Considering Abortion" with permission from Heartbeat International, Inc.



INTERCESSION

May every expectant mother receive compassionate care and support as she nurtures the life in her womb.

PRAYERS

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be

REFLECTION

When the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary, she opened her heart to receive his message that she would conceive the Son of God in her womb. As a young, betrothed, but unmarried, woman, Mary knew that her pregnancy presented many challenges. Despite this knowledge, she faithfully responded, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38).

Like the Blessed Mother, women who unexpectedly become pregnant often face significant challenges. They, too, are called to place their trust in God and faithfully respond to His gift of new life. And we are called to walk with them in their time of need. As Jesus taught us, when we love and serve others, we are loving and serving Him.

May all expectant mothers be encouraged by Mary's example and receive support and grace in lovingly welcoming their children into the world.

ACTS OF REPARATION (choose one)

- Sign up to pray for and serve expectant mothers in need in your community through a parish-based program called *Walking with Moms in Need* (walkingwithmoms.com/pledge).
- Pray the Angelus today (usccb.org/angelus). You might also consider saying it every day for the next week—on awakening, at noon, or at 6 p.m. (or all three times).
- Offer some other sacrifice, prayer, or act of penance that you feel called to do for today's intention.

ONE STEP FURTHER

When a woman is facing an unexpected pregnancy, the reaction of the first person she tells tends to set the tone for her decision-making. Pregnancy can be difficult and frightening, but no matter the circumstances, it's important for an expectant mother to feel supported and loved. Read *10 Ways to Support Her When She's Unexpectedly Expecting* (respectlife.org/support-her) for simple tips on how to provide loving, life-affirming support for a friend who is unexpectedly pregnant. Your support may be the only support she receives.



INTERCESSION

May expectant fathers lovingly support the mothers of their children in welcoming new life.

PRAYERS

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be

REFLECTION

Fatherhood has its origins in God, who chose to reveal Himself to us as Our Father, sending his only Son for the sake of our salvation. Fathers therefore have a special role "in revealing and in relying on earth the very fatherhood of God" (*Familialis consortio* 25). Fathers are called to exhibit "generous responsibility for the life conceived under the heart of the mother" (*FC* 25). They are uniquely entrusted with the protection and defense of both mother and child and, in this way, in safeguarding the sanctity of human life.

As evidenced in our world today, the role of the father "is of unique and irreplaceable importance" (*FC* 25). Often women choose abortion because they do not have the support of the child's father, or—even worse—the father of the child pressures her to make the decision to abort. At the same time, it is important to acknowledge with compassion that men can also be overwhelmed by an unexpected pregnancy and that society increasingly tells them that they should have no say in their children's lives. In the face of these false messages, we pray that expectant fathers will find courage in the example of Saint Joseph—who embraced the role of father amid difficult circumstances—and offer loving, life-affirming support to the mothers of their children.

ACTS OF REPARATION (choose one)

- Give up sleeping on your pillow—or even your bed—tonight. Offer this small sacrifice for the intention that expectant fathers will courageously answer their call to support both mother and child.
- Pray a decade of the Rosary for all expectant fathers, that through her intercession, Our Lady may inspire in them the virtues of Saint Joseph: usccb.org/how-to-pray-the-rosary.
- Offer some other sacrifice, prayer, or act of penance that you feel called to do for today's intention.

ONE STEP FURTHER

Research continues to show that one of the top reasons a woman chooses abortion is due to a lack of financial resources. Read *Poverty and Abortion: A Vicious Cycle*, which explores the connections between abortion and poverty, and how the absence of fathers contributes to this ongoing cycle (respectlife.org/poverty-and-abortion).

RESPECT LIFE, continued from Page 8

liam E. Lori of Baltimore.

"Now, more than ever, our nation is in need of prayer for the protection of the unborn and the dignity of all human life," Archbishop Naumann said in a statement. "I am happy to be joined by bishops in dioceses across the country who are hosting pro-life prayer events, including during the overnight hours of Eucharistic Adoration. I invite all Catholics to spend time with Our Lord and join in this nationwide vigil for life."

The schedule of the 2021 National Prayer Vigil for Life:

Thursday, Jan. 28

8 p.m. National Rosary for Life

8:30 p.m. Opening Mass with Archbishop Naumann

9:45 p.m. Holy Hour for Life

11 p.m. Livestream of holy hours throughout the night

Friday, Jan. 29:

8 a.m. Closing Mass with Archbishop Lori

Live television broadcasts from 8 to 11 p.m. Jan. 28 and 8 to 9 a.m. Jan. 29 will be provided by the Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN) and will also be available via livestream on the basilica's website. Livestreaming information for the overnight bishop-led holy hours from various dioceses will be provided on the USCCB's website.

Youth Rally and Mass for Life

The annual Youth Rally and Mass for Life, traditionally held at the Capital One Arena in downtown Washington, D.C., will take place virtually at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, Jan. 29. The website for more information and livestreaming is https://youthrallyandmassforlife.org. In past years, numerous school groups and individuals have attended the Youth Rally and Mass for Life, including Bishop Brennan in January 2020, but students have been encouraged to watch via livestream or participate in activities at their schools.

March for Life

The annual March for Life on Friday, Jan. 29 on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., has adopted the theme "Together Strong: Life Unites" in 2021. The march will also be livestreamed for those who cannot attend.

The rally takes place from noon to 1 p.m. on the Mall, and the march to the U.S. Supreme Court kicks off at 1 p.m. To sign up for the livestream, visit www.marchforlife.org. The website includes an extensive list of COVID protocols (masks, physical distancing, travel and more) for those who plan to come to Washington to take part in the march.

A pre-rally concert with Matthew West, a Christian singer/songwriter, will begin at 11 a.m.

The lineup of speakers at the rally include former NFL tight end Benjamin Watson and wife Kirsten; former Heisman Trophy winner and NFL quarterback, minor-league baseball player and broadcaster Tim Tebow (virtually); Cissie Graham Lynch, granddaughter of Billy Graham; Jim Daly, author, broadcaster and president of Focus on the Family; Elizabeth Eller, student body president at Christendom College in Front Royal, Virginia; Archbishop Joseph Naumann of Kansas City, Kansas, who serves as chair of the USCCB's Pro-Life Committee; J.D. Greear, pastor of The Summit Church in Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina; and West.

Other resources

This year's events take on greater significance as a new anti-life administration in Washington, D.C., prepares to take office while promising to dramatically increase access and funding for abortion domestically and internationally.

Pro-life leaders caution those who defend life against being discouraged. They point to the sig-

See RESPECT LIFE, Page 10



INTERCESSION

May all who defend life find strength and renewal in the Holy Spirit.

PRAYERS

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be

REFLECTION

God has carefully, tenderly created every person in His own image and likeness, to be in a loving relationship with Himself. From each tiny child knit within a mother's womb, to every person approaching death, all are loved perfectly and completely by God: "It is therefore a service of love which we are all committed to ensure to our neighbor, that his or her life may be always defended and promoted, especially when it is weak or threatened [emphasis added]" (Evangelium vitae 77).

In a world in which those who are most vulnerable are so often overlooked and disregarded, Christ calls us to embrace and uphold the unconditional dignity of every human life. In answering this call, we help to build "a new culture of life, the fruit of the culture of truth and of love" (EV 77). May the Holy Spirit continually renew us as we strive to faithfully defend God's gift of life.

DAY NINE

January 29, 2021

March for Life, Washington, DC

ACTS OF REPARATION (choose one)

- Do you love your cup of tea or coffee? Abstain from caffeine today, or try your coffee black.
• "Unplug" for some time today, and reflect on how God may be asking you to help build a culture of life in your home, workplace, or Church community.
• Offer some other sacrifice, prayer, or act of penance that you feel called to do for today's intention.

ONE STEP FURTHER

Watching the news and reading headlines, we may often feel helpless in the face of heartbreaking lack of respect for human life. When our efforts to make a difference feel small, it's important to remember that changing the culture is a process of conversion that begins in our own hearts. It includes a willingness to be instructed by the Holy Spirit and a desire to be close to Jesus—the source of joy and love. How to Build a Culture of Life briefly explains where to start:
https://www.usccb.org/culture-of-life.



DID YOU KNOW ?

Although the annual National Prayer Vigil for Life is closed to in-person attendance due to health concerns, you can participate live from anywhere in the country on Thursday, January 28! Visit https://www.usccb.org/national-prayer-vigil-for-life for more information.

INTERCESSION

May civic leaders work for the protection of all human life, in every stage and circumstance.

PRAYERS

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be

REFLECTION

The Declaration of Independence boldly affirms that first among our inalienable rights is the right to life, given to us by the Creator. Yet despite being so solemnly proclaimed, the right to life is today threatened and often denied, particularly at the moments when life is most fragile. Our laws should—first and foremost—protect life. But "our highest Court does not recognize children in their mothers' wombs as persons and claims that abortion is a constitutional right. Further, many political leaders work actively to increase access to abortion. Some falsely describe it as health care and even as a basic human right" (Priorities at the Polls). Laws and policies that legalize or promote an intrinsic civil like abortion violate the virtue of justice.

Those who work as public officials and civic leaders have a duty to serve the common good, and therefore have a profound obligation to safeguard this most fundamental right to life. Through our own prayer, witness, and civic participation, we can encourage our leaders to truly answer

their call to protect the rights of all people. For "there can be no true democracy without a recognition of every person's dignity and without respect for his or her rights" (Evangelium vitae 101).

ACTS OF REPARATION (choose one)

- Sacrifice some of your free time to do a small act of service, such as making breakfast for a family member, writing a note of encouragement to a coworker, or praying for the intentions of a friend.
• Sometimes restrictions on religious freedom constrain our efforts to live out the Gospel of life. We must be free to live out our Catholic faith in the public square. Offer this Prayer for Religious Liberty, that Christians may always be free to respect, protect, and defend human life:
https://www.usccb.org/prayer-for-religious-liberty.
• Offer some other sacrifice, prayer, or act of penance that you feel called to do for today's intention.

ONE STEP FURTHER

When discussing faithful citizenship in 2019, the U.S. bishops reaffirmed, "the threat of abortion remains our preeminent priority because it directly attacks life itself, because it takes place within the sanctuary of the family, and because of the number of lives destroyed." Archbishop Naumann of Kansas City, Kansas and Chair of the Committee on Pro-Life Activities, explains more in Priorities at the Polls:
https://www.usccb.org/priorities-at-the-polls.

Evangelium vitae (The Gospel of Life), no. 101 © 1995, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved. Most Reverend Joseph E. Naumann, Priorities at the Polls, Washington, DC: USCCB, 2020. Copyright © 2020, USCCB, Washington, DC. All rights reserved.



If you or someone you know is suffering after abortion, confidential, compassionate help is available. Visit https://www.hopeafterabortion.org.

INTERCESSION

May each person suffering from the loss of a child through abortion find hope and healing in Christ.

PRAYERS

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be

REFLECTION

After more than four decades of legalized abortion, many children's lives have been ended, and many parents and family members suffer that loss—often in silence. Yet God's greatest desire is to forgive. No matter how far we have each strayed from His side, He says to us, "Don't be afraid. Draw close to my heart." Be assured that it is never too late to seek God's forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Consider the parable of the Prodigal Son. After repenting of sinning against his father, he returns from far away to seek forgiveness and work as a servant. But the father sees him approaching, runs to warmly embrace him, and hosts a banquet to celebrate his return. So, too, does God welcome all of His repentant children, no matter how serious the sin. Let us turn confidently to Our Lord, Who is love and mercy.

ACTS OF REPARATION (choose one)

- Abstain from meat today.
• Pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy for those who are suffering the loss of a child through abortion, asking that they find healing and peace (https://www.usccb.org/divine-mercy-chaplet).
• Offer some other sacrifice, prayer, or act of penance that you feel called to do for today's intention.

ONE STEP FURTHER

If a friend confided in you that she had an abortion, would you be able to listen and respond in a way that brings her closer to healing? Learn how in How to Talk to a Friend Who's Had an Abortion (https://www.usccb.org/friend-had-abortion).



INTERCESSION

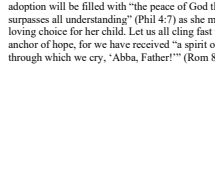
May expectant mothers choosing adoption receive grace and support in embracing this loving option.

PRAYERS

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be

REFLECTION

Mothers placing their children for adoption often face many challenges along the way. One of the greatest obstacles can be inaccurately perceiving adoption as abandonment. But mothers who make an adoption plan for their children are not abandoning their children. Rather, they are exemplifying the sacrificial love of Christ on the Cross in choosing to do what is best for their children, even at great cost to themselves. Like Christ, they pour out their bodies and souls for the sake of another. The Letter to the Hebrews reminds us that, in the face of fears and trials, we can "hold fast to the hope that lies before us. This we have as an anchor of the soul, sure and firm" (Heb 6:18-19). We pray that each expectant mother choosing adoption will be filled with "the peace of God that surpasses all understanding" (Phil 4:7) as she makes a loving choice for her child. Let us all cling fast to the anchor of hope, for we have received "a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, 'Abba, Father!'" (Rom 8:15).



ACTS OF REPARATION (choose one)

- Do you have a sweet tooth? Or do you prefer salty snacks? Pick your favorite kind of treat, and give it up for the day.
• Look up one of the Scripture passages from today's reflection, and spend some time with it in prayer. What is the Lord saying to you?
• Offer some other sacrifice, prayer, or act of penance that you feel called to do for today's intention.

ONE STEP FURTHER

Accompanying Expectant Mothers Considering Adoption suggests nine ways to offer ongoing support to a woman who is considering making an adoption plan for her unborn child (https://www.respectlife.org/mothers-considering-adoption). Many of the tips given are also helpful for supporting a friend who is experiencing a challenging or unexpected pregnancy, even if adoption has not been brought up. Supplemental resources regarding adoption can be found at https://www.usccb.org/adoption-resources.



INTERCESSION

May all who support or participate in abortion experience a conversion of heart to seek and receive the Lord's boundless mercy.

PRAYERS

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be

REFLECTION

When God fashioned the human person in His own image and likeness, He destined us for eternal life with Him. Yet because of the sin of our first parents, death entered the world. The book of Genesis records the first occasion in which a person takes the life of another, as Cain violently kills his brother Abel. This instance of brother rising up against brother "at the very dawn of history is thus a sad witness of how evil spreads with amazing speed" (Evangelium vitae 8).

From the time of creation, disregard for human life has continued to spread. When we, like Cain, allow sin to find a place in our hearts, we become blinded to the truth. Sometimes this blindness might be so deep that we fail to recognize the undeniable humanity of unborn children. We may even tragically believe the lie that abortion is an act of compassion. But we know that "life, especially human life, belongs only to God; for this reason whoever attacks human life, in some way attacks God himself" (EV 9). Let us pray that all who support abortion will encounter the transforming love of the Father and, with repentant hearts, seek His mercy.

ACTS OF REPARATION (choose one)

- Smile. Ask God today for the grace to be extra joyful and to share the light of Christ with those most in need of His love and mercy.
• Make an act of faith, hope, or love (https://www.usccb.org/faith-hope-love).
• Offer some other sacrifice, prayer, or act of penance that you feel called to do for today's intention.

ONE STEP FURTHER

Evangelium vitae (The Gospel of Life) was written to reaffirm the value and inviolability of every human life and to appeal to all people to respect, protect, love, and serve every human life. A brief summary highlights key themes and foundational teachings from the papal encyclical, exploring how the Church's teachings regarding human life are at the heart of Jesus' entire Gospel message (https://www.usccb.org/gospel-of-life-summary).



Pregnancy Decision Health Centers marks 40th anniversary

On Jan. 22, Pregnancy Decision Health Centers (PDHC) will celebrate 40 years of rescuing lives and impacting families for generations in central Ohio.

PDHC is known as a pioneer in pregnancy resource centers, the first of its kind to open in Columbus in 1981, on the anniversary of the 1973 Supreme Court decision of *Roe v. Wade*. Founders Mike and Peggy Hartshorn of St. Mary Parish in German Village and other passionate pro-life friends joined the pro-life movement after this historical decision.

Sitting together around the kitchen table, they envisioned the first pregnancy help center to provide abortion-vulnerable women the compassionate care, hope and practical support needed to choose life for their babies. Before the first “Pregnancy Distress Center (PDC)” even opened its doors, they answered its first hotline calls from their home.

In the first year, they had 309 visits to their center and answered 2,800 hotline calls. One of the first women to receive help said, “The Pregnancy Distress Center is the best thing that happened to me at my time of need. There was love, understanding and guidance. I will never forget what you and the center did for me.”

Now, 40 years later, that first center has grown to become PDHC, with four locations and a thriving 24/7 hotline, saving thousands of lives since its founding. In 2020, PDHC had record highs of more than 6,900 center visits and over 35,000 calls, texts and chats to its hotline.

PDHC celebrated many “firsts” in 40 years. PDHC was the first pregnancy center in the United States to have multiple sites and branch offices. In 1984, PDHC became the first comprehensive pregnancy resource center of its kind in Ohio by providing four pillars of service to care for the whole person: mind, body, and soul. This includes pregnancy support through free personalized consultations, pregnancy tests, prenatal vitamins, linkage to community resources and outreach programs, and a 24/7 hotline.



Tom Vollmer (left), past Grand Knight and director of The Life Program for Reynoldsburg Knights of Columbus Council #5253, presents a check to Pregnancy Decision Health Centers president Kathy Scanlon to purchase ultrasound chairs. At right is Council #5253 Grand Knight Ted Habak. Photo courtesy PDHC

In 1995, PDHC was the fourth center in the United States to add ultrasound services. This is important because 90 percent of women who see and hear their baby’s heartbeat on an ultrasound choose life.

PDHC was the first pregnancy center in Franklin County and surrounding areas to provide abortion pill reversal services. Forty percent of all abortions in the United States occur through the abortion pill. Abortion pill reversal gives a woman who regrets taking the abortion pill a second chance to save her baby. PDHC saved lives in 2020 through this new service.

“PDHC is a place where women can feel support and not judgment. ... The space was full of love and encouragement. ... They made me feel welcomed and

at home,” said Alissa, who gave birth to twins after coming to PDHC for help during an unexpected pregnancy.

PDHC’s family empowerment services provide women and families with practical support throughout their pregnancy and beyond with parenting education programs, free maternity and baby clothing, diapers, car seats, pack and play cribs and other needed baby items. In 2020, PDHC had a record-high 2,746 parenting class visits, up 62 percent from 2019.

“I loved all of the classes, teachers, nurses and volunteers. You were so kind and helpful to me. We will not forget all your kindness and support. We will miss you forever,” said Mia, 2020 parenting class graduate.

PDHC’s youth development services provide healthy choice education programs in middle and high schools to teach students about making healthy life choices to reduce the risky behaviors that lead to teen pregnancy and abortion. PDHC was the first pregnancy resource center in the United States to receive a federal grant for abstinence education.

PDHC’s abortion recovery programs provide hope and healing to women and men struggling in silence from the pain of a past abortion experience. PDHC was the first pregnancy center in the United States to develop a post-abortion support program. One in 4 women have experienced abortion and need to know where they can go for support and healing.

“I reached out for support. I look back at my journey and I’m overwhelmed by how I have grown stronger and feel more at peace,” said a program participant.

“For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Ephesians 2:10. We look forward to continuing the mission of rescuing lives and impacting generations for another 40 years.

To learn more, become a volunteer or to support the life-saving services of PDHC, visit www.SupportLifePDHC.org.

RESPECT LIFE, continued from Page 9

nificant gains made during the past few years that include the passage of legislation in multiple states, including Ohio, protecting the unborn.

Walking with Moms in Need

Walking with Moms in Need is a year of service during which Catholic parishes and communities “walk in the shoes” of local pregnant and parenting women in need. The Diocese of Columbus is participating in this initiative.

Visit www.walkingwithmoms.com or contact the diocesan Office for Social Concerns to learn how to get involved at socmailbox@columbuscatholic.org.

40 Days for Life

In a recent email to supporters, Shawn Carney, the national president of 40 Days for Life, said, “America is at a crossroads as we await the most pro-abor-

tion government in American history, which will take power in less than two weeks. The culture in America reflects the greatest need for our world at large – the need for Jesus Christ.

“This is not a time for despair, but for fortitude and faith. ... When we draw ourselves closer to Him, our hand doesn’t shake in uncertain times. He is our focus, and He will lead us to victory in ending abortion in America and around the world.”

40 Days for Life is a national organization that initiates 40-day prayer vigils at abortion clinics throughout the world, including Columbus, twice a year.

Visit 40daysforlife.com for more resources and ways to help the organization.

Students for Life of America

Students for Life Action president Kristan Hawkins announced last week that the organization

launched a congressional scorecard as part of its Blueprint for a Post-Roe America that tracks voting on defunding Planned Parenthood, defending life-affirming health care and proactive measures to support mothers and their children, born and pre-born.

“Our SFLAction Scorecard will have a weighted score, like AP Classes for example, in which direct abortion-related votes will be most significant, but other issues will be scored for their service and support to mothers and their children, born and pre-born,” Hawkins said.

“Students for Life Action was launched to capitalize on the desires of the pro-life generation in all 50 states who want to add direct political engagement on the issue of abortion to their outreach to women who are directly targeted by abortion vendors.”

For more information, visit www.studentsforlife.org.

Student collects diapers for birthday



Instead of asking for presents for his birthday, Dominic Neighbor, a senior at Lancaster Fisher Catholic High School, told his parents he wanted to collect donations for the Bottoms Up diaper drive. His parents asked friends and family members to help, and he ended up collecting more than \$600, along with 339 diapers. He is pictured with Jo Welsh of Bottoms Up.

Photo courtesy Bottoms Up

St. Matthew Santa shop



The Gahanna St. Matthew Church charitable works committee took an empty room and converted it into a Santa shop where more than 60 families were able to pick out Christmas gifts and decorations at no cost to them. The committee also provided Christmas meals to more than 80 families. What was not taken was given to Columbus St. Dominic Church, the Interfaith Hospitality Network, the Military Veterans Resource Center, Food for the Journey in Dayton, Smyrna Baptist Church and Mount Olivet Baptist Church.

Photo courtesy St. Matthew Church

Parish donates to Women's Care Center



Quinn signs with Ohio University



Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School senior Quintell Quinn signed a national letter of intent to play for Ohio University. In his three seasons with the Stallions, Quinn set a school record with 3,363 career rushing yards, scored 48 touchdowns, had 278 tackles and was a three-time first team All-Central District player and the school's fourth player to be named twice to the All-Ohio first team. The others are Mark White, Luke Fickell and Grant Bowman.

Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School

Filipinos celebrate Simbang Gabi



The Filipino Catholic community of central Ohio had its 10th annual Simbang Gabi celebration from Tuesday, Dec. 15 to Wednesday, Dec. 23 at Columbus St. Francis of Assisi Church. Members of the planning committee for the event were (standing, from left) Irene Sze, Minda Li, Father Ramon Oweru, parish administrator of Columbus St. Dominic and Holy Rosary-St. John churches, Anelle Garcia, Josephine Yang, Joy Polintan and Lynn Gilmore. Eric Yang is in front. Simbang Gabi is a novena of Masses dedicated to the Virgin Mary that concludes with a dinner celebration. It was supposed to have taken place at Columbus Christ the King Church but was moved to St. Francis of Assisi because of the uncertainty brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. Masses for the novena were celebrated with limited attendance and use of face masks and social distancing. To accommodate those who could not attend, the Masses were livestreamed on Facebook, with as many as 400 views at times. The final Mass was concelebrated by Father Oweru and Father Fritzner Valcin, administrator at St. Francis of Assisi, with Pontifical College Josephinum seminarian Jake Asuncion as server.

Photo by Cedric Sze

Father Matt Hoover, pastor of Columbus Immaculate Conception Church, presented a check for \$4,400 to the Women's Care Center of Columbus, which was the 2020 recipient of the parish's #GivingTuesday campaign. The center's client care director, Katie Beiter (left), and its development director, Madeline Pesavento, were on hand to receive the check.

Photo courtesy Immaculate Conception Church

Second Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year B

Ask yourself: What can I do to be a missionary disciple?

1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19
Psalm 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10
1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20
John 1:35-42

We are called by Jesus Himself to be disciples. “Come and see” is the invitation. The Lamb of God invites us. The proper answer to this call is: “Speak, Lord, Your servant is listening.” And “Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.”

Responding to this call means we do not belong to ourselves and it is the Lord Who plans our lives. When we follow, something new happens. Our name is changed in the sense that God gives us a new way of relationship in the world.

We are to be a people who put faith in God ahead of everything else. We have to discern our activities not by the standards of the world or even by our own wishes and desires, but by the Lord’s call.

This is at times obscure. At other times, it is very clear. God reveals to us a path, and we are to follow. We won’t be able to understand it until we walk with Him.

In our world today, we are still called to be disciples. At the moment, for a variety of reasons, this is something less than comfortable. There are wonderful graces and gifts, but we will sometimes be acting without a full awareness of the meaning of what is happening.

The heart of Gospel living is the impulse to share the Gospel. If we see it as something of a hobby, or as something we can take or leave, then, unfortunately, we simply have not heard the Gospel.

“There goes the Lamb of God,” spoken by one who lives as a follower of God has a power that moves people. “Come and see,” spoken by one who has learned where Jesus lives and how He relates to His own can draw others in. “Speak, Lord, your servant is listening” and “Here am I, Lord; I come to do Your will” are the words that open up a disciple to a new level of learning the ways of God.

God is calling you. You are being called, right where you are. You are called to be a witness to others of Who Jesus Is. You are called to live

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Father Timothy Hayes

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



with Jesus consciously, willfully, with a commitment that goes beyond mere superficial understanding.

The Diocese of Columbus is calling us all to learn together how to be evangelizers. It is time to begin a venture that will involve every member of the Diocese.

Our first target can be those who have already learned something of the Gospel through the Catholic Church. All of us have family and friends who are no longer with us for one reason or another. You are hereby commissioned to invite them to return to the practice of the Catholic faith.

Here are the steps you might take:

First, consider your immediate audience, those who are in your circle. Who has the Lord entrusted to you just by who you are and where you live and work? Make a list. Check it daily. Add to it whenever you see a possibility, even if it seems a long shot.

Second, and this one is harder, review your own situation with a clear desire to put God first in your life. Are you living the full truth of the Catholic faith? Where have you been giving this mere lip service? Where are you lacking in your knowledge of Church teaching?

What questions and objections have others brought to you that you need to have an answer for? How do you respond to the fact that our society is not choosing the way of both a culture of life and a culture of concern for those who have been left out? What do you believe the Lord asks from you? How can your parish community assist you in your effort to develop tools for evangelization?

Third, choose others with whom you can plan a common effort to do something concrete in this area. Target Lent as a starting point. What is the Lord calling you and your fellow disciples to do in order to bring others to Him?

THE WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS

1/18-1/23

MONDAY
 Hebrews 5:1-10
 Psalm 110:1-4
 Mark 2:18-22

TUESDAY
 Hebrews 6:10-20
 Psalm 111:1-2,4-5,9,10c
 Mark 2:23-28

WEDNESDAY
 Hebrews 7:1-3,15-17
 Psalm 110:1-4
 Mark 3:1-6

THURSDAY
 Hebrews 7:25-8:6
 Psalm 40:7-10,17
 Mark 3:7-12

FRIDAY
 Hebrews 8:6-13
 Psalm 85:8,10,11-14
 Mark 3:13-19

SATURDAY
 Hebrews 9:2-3,11-14
 Psalm 47:2-3,6-9
 Mark 3:20-21

1/25-1/31

MONDAY
 Acts 22:3-16 or
 Acts 9:1-22
 Psalm 117:1,2
 Mark 16:15-18

TUESDAY
 2 Timothy 1:1-8 or
 Titus 1:1-5
 Psalm 96:1-3,7-8a,10

Mark 3:31-35

WEDNESDAY
 Hebrews 10:11-18
 Psalm 110:1-4
 Mark 4:1-20

THURSDAY
 Hebrews 10:19-25
 Psalm 24:1-4b,5-6
 Mark 4:21-25

FRIDAY
 Hebrews 10:32-39
 Psalm 37:3-6,23-24,29-30
 Mark 4:26-34

SATURDAY
 Hebrews 11:1-2,8-19
 Luke 1:69-75 (Ps)
 Mark 4:35-41

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION

MASS SCHEDULE: WEEKS OF JAN. 17 & 24, 2021

SUNDAY MASS

10:30 a.m. Mass from Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com and diocesan website, www.columbuscatholic.org.

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

Mass with the Passionist Fathers at 7:30 a.m. on WWHO-TV (the CW), Channel 53, Columbus and 10:30 a.m. on WHIZ-TV, Channel 18, Zanesville. Mass from St. Francis de Sales Seminary, Milwaukee, at 10 a.m. on WWHO-TV. Check local cable system for cable channel listing.

Mass from Our Lady of the Angels Monastery, Birmingham, Ala., at 8 a.m. on EWTN (Spectrum Channel 385, Insight Channel 382, or WOW Channel 378). (Encores at noon, 7 p.m.,

and midnight).

Mass from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee at 6:30 a.m. on ION TV (AT&T U-verse Channel 195, Dish Network Channel 250, or DirecTV Channel 305).

Mass from Massillon St. Mary Church at 10:30 a.m. on WILB 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 I-Lifetv (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.

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

Videos of Masses are available at any time on the internet at these and many other parish websites: Mattingly Settlement St. Mary (www.stannstmary.org); Columbus St. Patrick (www.stpatrickcolumbus.org); Delaware St. Mary (www.delawarestmary.org); Sunbury St. John Neumann (www.saintjohnsunbury.org); and Columbus Immaculate Conception (www.iccols.org). Check your parish website for additional information.

We pray Weeks II and III of the Liturgy of the Hours.

Third Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year B

Embrace life’s difficulties,

‘repent, and believe in the Gospel’

Jonah 3:1-5, 10
Psalm 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9
1 Corinthians 7:29-31
Mark 1:14-20

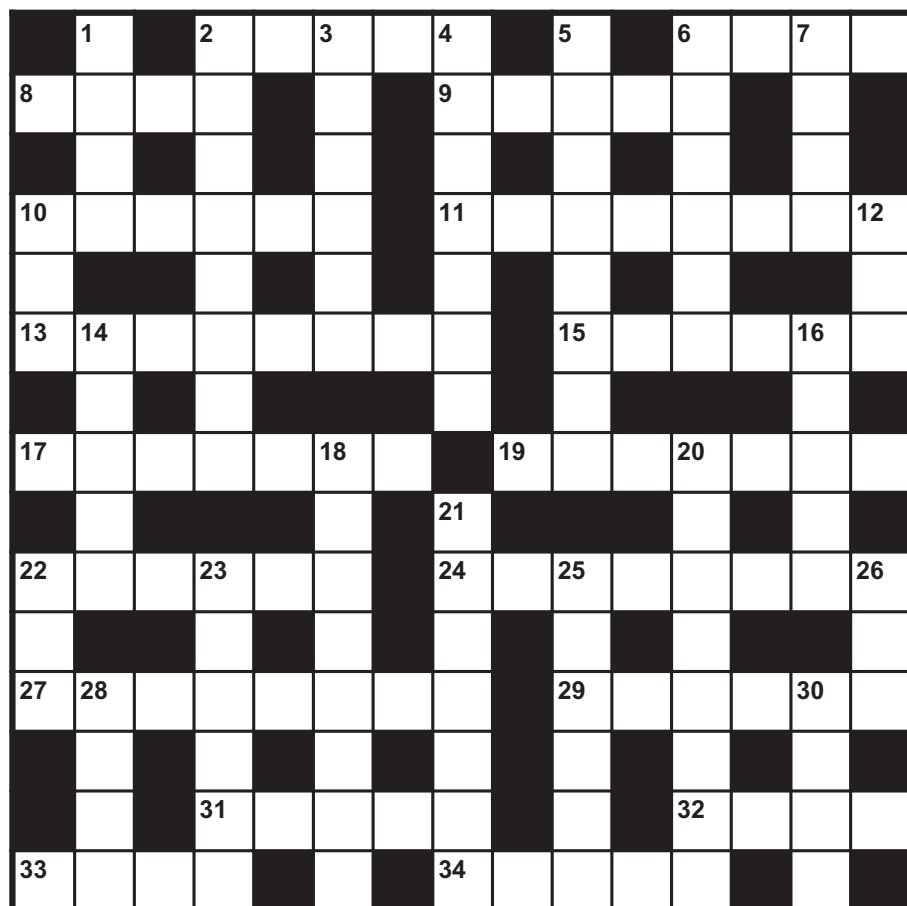
“The world in its present form is passing away.” This message could easily have been spoken to us early last year as the coronavirus was first making its presence evident in our part of the world, drawing us into an awareness that we are truly part of an

interdependent planet. What would our lives be like now if we had lived then with such an awareness, as Paul advised the Corinthians to do? We might have been somewhat “ready” to let go of things as they were and the past year would not have been quite so painful.

Jesus calls His disciples to leave

See **SCRIPTURE**, Page 13

CATHOLIC CROSSWORD



www.wordgamesforcatholics.com

ACROSS

- 2 People St. Patrick converted
- 6 Transport for Peter and Andrew
- 8 OT book about a Jewish heroine
- 9 Friend of St. Francis of Assisi
- 10 He knocked down the Philistine temple
- 11 Type of sin
- 13 Ecclesiastical court
- 15 ___ of Prague
- 17 Ecclesiastical hat
- 19 Certain Sunday
- 22 It was built by Solomon
- 24 "... ___ thy help or sought thy intercession..." (Memorare)
- 27 Elder son of Joseph
- 29 Apostle number
- 31 "Ave ___"
- 32 NT book that follows John
- 33 Grandmother of Timothy
- 34 Jewish month of Passover

- 3 Catholic singing group, The ___ Sisters
- 4 Thomas Aquinas is patron saint of these Catholic institutions
- 5 St. Peter's, for one
- 6 Tenet
- 7 Jesus' name for the Father
- 10 Day dedicated to Marian devotions (abbr.)
- 12 His wife was turned to salt
- 14 "And I will ___ you up on eagle's wings"
- 16 ___ Dame
- 18 "For where your ___ is, there will your heart be also" (Mt 6:21)
- 20 Type of priest
- 21 He left sad when Jesus told him to sell all he owned
- 22 Catholic newsman Russert, former host of "Meet the Press"
- 23 David is said to have written some of these
- 25 John was on this island
- 26 A parish position (abbr.)
- 28 ___ Domini
- 30 Arizona-Vatican connection

DOWN

- 1 Paul preached in ___ Minor
- 2 Long sleeveless vestment

SCRIPTURE, continued from Page 12

behind the nets that bind them to the present world. *"This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the Gospel."* What could our lives be like if we would follow the Master as readily as Peter and Andrew and James and John?

Jonah was called to speak to a people who did not understand and there was an immediate response – prayer and fasting, and a change of mind on the part of God. What would be the response of our contemporaries if we were to preach clearly, with the evidence of our lives, the message that has been entrusted to us?

This week, we have experienced a "transition of power." We can approach this time with an attitude of hope. But we must also recognize that we are living in times when each of us must make a fundamental choice. We must choose to live as a witness to the truth. Like Jonah, we may want to flee. But God has entrusted us with a responsibility.

We are living in times that will try our very souls. We must choose to leave behind the nets that can entrap us in order to bring the message of salvation and conversion to our world that is headed for self-destruction. We must set our sights on eternity and live in the awareness that all that is around us is destined to pass away.

When difficult things happen to us, we can see them in two ways: as an

obstacle that stands in our way, or as an unexpected opportunity that opens up new possibilities and greater things than we might have expected.

The world in its present form is passing away. We are surrounded by clear evidence of this simple truth. There are sad experiences all around us. We are more aware than ever before of limits: the material, emotional and spiritual struggles that come to us in the midst of our daily walk. We do not have enough money, time, energy or faith to meet the burdens that come against us. What does God do with that? He sends us to a greater task and invites us to rely on Him.

Folks outside our community measure us and we are invited to live in a way that reveals God's mercy for them. The call to repentance is not easy to give, but it bears fruit when it is heard. Nineveh – Israel's enemy – is spared because the people respond to the call of Jonah. Jesus hears of the death of John the Baptist and He begins His public ministry in earnest. *Whatever happens to us is not as important as how we respond to it.*

The message given to us today is the same as it has always been: *"This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the Gospel."* And so, let us open our hearts to conversion. Let us believe and be a sign of the truth of the Gospel, so that God will show His mercy to us all.

Medical conference coming to Josephinum

In the midst of the most unprecedented medical situation of this generation, medical professionals in Columbus and the surrounding area will have the opportunity to receive continuing education through a medical ethics health care conference.

The St. John Paul II Foundation, in collaboration with Diocese of Columbus and the Catholic Medical Association of Central Ohio, is bringing Converging Roads to the Diocese of Columbus on Saturday, April 24. The conference will be held in person at the Pontifical College Josephinum, with social distancing and other health

and safety measures being enforced.

Converging Roads is an initiative of the St. John Paul II Foundation, a national Catholic apostolate proclaiming the Good News about life and family through education and formation. At this conference, health care professionals and chaplains can receive continuing education credits; however, all are invited to attend regardless of profession. Special rates are available for clergy and current students.

To register or for more information, visit convergingroads.com and click on Columbus, OH.

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AUGENSTEIN, Ursula (Schreiber), Dec. 15
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Zanesville

BELL, Gertrude (Caldwell), 95, Jan. 7
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Zanesville

BOCH, Nina R. (Mohler), 72, Jan. 1
St. Mary Church, Lancaster

BRAUN, William H., 88, Dec. 25
St. Brendan Church, Hilliard

CAPRETTA, Cassandra (Rains), 67, Jan. 1
St. Cecilia Church, Columbus

CARABIN, Gary L., 69, Jan. 4
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany

CIRILLO, Corina J. (Bergunzi), 86, Jan. 7
St. Matthew Church, Gahanna

CLAGETT, Wayne J., 82, Jan. 5
St. Aloysius Church, Columbus

COLLARD, Michael, 64, Nov. 20
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Zanesville

CONTINO, Robert W., 78, Dec. 27
St. John the Baptist Church, Columbus

COOKSTON, Carolyn A. (Nerny), 82, Jan. 1
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

CULP, Frederick C., 66, Jan. 3
Christ the King Church, Columbus

DICKERSON, Rodney M., 83, Dec. 24
Church of the Atonement, Crooksville

DICKMAN, James, 87, Oct. 4
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Zanesville

DONALDSON, Cathy S. (Conrad), 66, Dec. 30
St. John Church, Logan

FAIELLA, Kathleen A. (Adkins), 71, Jan. 2
Sacred Heart Church, Columbus

FAZIO, Giuseppe, 83, Jan. 3
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

FESTI, Marilyn (Stein), 91, Dec. 30
St. Joseph Church, Dover

FRECKER, Stephen A., 78, Jan. 5
St. John XXIII Church, Canal Winchester

GILDOW, Elizabeth J. "Betty" (Christ), 91, Jan. 2
St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

HATFIELD, James, 86, Dec. 24
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Zanesville

HEBETS (SCHLANGER), Theresa M. (Beresh), 87, Dec. 16
St. Philip Church, Columbus

HEIGLEY, Bryan D., 42, Dec. 10
Church of the Atonement, Crooksville

HICKMAN, Valerie, 20, Oct. 18
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Zanesville

HOCH, Barbara J. (Hoffman), 92, Dec. 29
St. Mary Church, Lancaster

HORN, Michael J., 62, Dec. 28
St. Agatha Church, Columbus

JOHNSTON, Joseph, 68, Jan. 6
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Zanesville

KARAS, James, 68, Dec. 24
St. Catharine Church, Columbus

KASSON, Gregory M., 58, Dec. 30
St. Mary Church, Lancaster

LUCKHAUPT, Jean J. (Stout), 91, Jan. 5
St. Leo the Great Oratory, Columbus

McCOY, Alice (Duddy), 100, Jan. 2
St. Matthew Church, Gahanna

MEEHAN, William P., 88, formerly of Columbus, Dec. 23
St. Cecilia Church, Fort Myers, Fla.

MOONEY, William J., 93, Dec. 23
St. Rose of Lima Church, New Lexington

POLIS, Stephen L., 72, of Columbus, Dec. 18
St. Anthony of Padua Maronite Catholic Church, Cincinnati

PORTER, Michael E., 60, Dec. 31
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

PYERS, Mary J., 80, Dec. 27
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany

REAVER, Daniel S. "Woody," 73, Jan. 4
St. Patrick Church, Columbus

RITCHEY, Regina (Joseph), 90, Dec. 18
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Zanesville

SASFY, James D. "Doug," 85, Jan. 1
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

SCHILLING, Charles, Dec. 22
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Zanesville

VANACCO, Frank J., 75, Dec. 13
St. Elizabeth Church, Columbus

WETZEL, Bonnie M. (Escover), 99, Dec. 30
St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

WILSON, Jacqueline M. (Spring), 77, Dec. 30
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

WOLFE, Barbara (Bowman), 76, Dec. 28
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Zanesville

Sister Jeanne Brown, OP

Funeral Mass for Sister Jeanne Brown, 86, who died Saturday, Dec. 26 at the Mohun Health Care Center, was celebrated Wednesday, Dec. 30 at the Motherhouse of the Dominican Sisters of Peace. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

She was born on Nov. 27, 1934 in the New York City borough of Queens to Dr. Harold and Ruth (Cunningham) Brown.

She was a graduate of Dominican Academy in New York City and received a Bachelor of Science degree in 1956 from the College of St. Mary of the Springs (now Ohio Dominican University), a Master of Arts degree in elementary education in 1967 from Ohio University and a certificate in clinical pastoral education in 1993 from Ohio University.

She entered the congregation of the Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs (now the Dominican Sisters of Peace) in 1956 and made her profession of vows on July 9, 1958, taking the name Sister Mary Jarrett.

In the Diocese of Columbus, she

was a teacher at Columbus St. Gabriel (1963-1966) and St. James the Less (1975-1979) schools and was principal at St. Gabriel School (1970-1971). She also taught in schools in the Diocese of Steubenville and Connecticut and was a principal in Michigan.

She was a faculty member (1967-1970, 1986-1988 and 1989-1992) and assistant dean of academic affairs (1988-1989) at Ohio Dominican and served the congregation as director of the ministry of welcome (1979-1982) and vocations director (1982-1986). She also ministered in Columbus at Nazareth Towers (1994-1996) and the Rosemont Center (1997-1999), was pastoral minister at St. Timothy Church (1999-2006), was a hospice volunteer (2006-2009) and was in volunteer services at the Motherhouse (2009-2014). She entered the Mohun center in 2014.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Dr. Thomas and James; and sisters, Ruthmary Carey and Margaret Ann Geissler. She is survived by a niece and nephews.



Catholic Foundation aids vital Portsmouth food pantry

Catholic Social Services (CSS) has served Portsmouth since 1957, and, in October 2014, the organization saw an opportunity to provide more to this struggling, but promising, Ohio River community.

With the help of Bishop Frederick Campbell and the parishes in Scioto County, CSS transformed a former monastery into a community center called the St. Francis Center. It provides county families a variety of services from CSS and its key partners, including a food pantry, secondhand thrift store, intervention classes (anger management, parenting, domestic violence) and an addiction healing ministry.

“When the (coronavirus) pandemic first hit our state in March 2020, we weren’t really in pandemic mode yet,” said Barbara McKenzie, CSS southern regional director. “One afternoon, we got an upsurge of people for food, and it wasn’t a normal food pantry day. We gave out 300 bags of food, and from that point forward we began to realize that this was a serious problem. People are panicking, and our food pantry numbers began soaring.”

Dan Kurth, vice president of grants and community impact at The Catholic Foundation in Columbus, asked how the Foundation could help. McKenzie’s response: money. The St. Francis Center needed money to restock the food pantry to meet the high demand. When schools closed,



Students assist at the St. Francis Center in Portsmouth.

Photo courtesy Catholic Social Services

and children were no longer receiving breakfast and lunch there, the center served many more families. In 2020’s first quarter alone, the center served 4,542 people, compared with 2,892 people in the first quarter of 2019.

The Foundation’s largest grant – \$16,000 from the Catholic Emergency Response Fund – went to the St. Francis Center. This was essential as the center’s pantry was the only one remaining open in Portsmouth, a city of 20,000 people, when the virus hit.

“Had the Foundation not stepped up and come to us, we don’t know

what we would have done,” McKenzie said. “At that point, all the other food pantries in the area shut down. We have remained open, and we have never had to shut down. People were so thankful as we were helping more families than ever.”

The St. Francis Center also partners with other community organizations and businesses such as American Electric Power (AEP) to help families

and individuals pay their utility bills. Through the partnership with AEP’s Neighbor to Neighbor program, the center has provided financial utility assistance to 86 families. This has been critical in keeping families together in their homes; without the aid, many families would have had to be split up, staying elsewhere with friends or relatives.

The center also provides diapers and personal hygiene items that are not covered with federal SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) dollars.

McKenzie said that working with the Foundation has been wonderful. “The loss of steel mills and shoe factories in the ’60s hit our area hard, and it hasn’t really recovered. Additionally, the opioid crisis has hit our area especially hard because there are no job opportunities. Fast food is all you can get, and you can’t support a family on minimum wage. Dan Kurth has taken the time to understand our area and the struggles we face. He is always asking, ‘How can the Foundation help?’”

For more information on how you can help the St. Francis Center, contact Scott Hartman of The Catholic Foundation at 614-443-8893 or shartman@catholic-foundation.org.

Sister Mary Ann Nugent, OSF

Funeral Mass for Sister Mary Ann Nugent, 82, who died Thursday, Dec. 31, was celebrated Tuesday, Jan. 5 at Zanesville St. Nicholas Church. Burial was at the Holy Family Convent, Manitowoc, Wisconsin.

She was born on May 8, 1938 in Cambridge to L. Paul and Christine (Hulka) Nugent.

She received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Holy Family College in Manitowoc, a Master of Arts degree from Ohio State University and a doctorate in educational leadership from Marquette University.

She entered the congregation of the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity in 1957 and professed her vows in 1959.

In the Diocese of Columbus, she was a teacher from 1970 to 1971 and principal from 1971 to 1975 at Delaware St. Mary School and a teacher from 1975 to 1976 and principal from 1976 to 1984 at Zanesville St. Nicholas School. She

served as a sponsor presence representative at the Genesis Health Care Center in Zanesville from 2013 until her death.

She also taught at schools in the Diocese of Steubenville and in Wisconsin and in Illinois, was a principal in Wisconsin and was a faculty member at Silver Lake College of the Holy Family in Manitowoc.

She was preceded in death by sisters, Elizabeth Jackson and Barbara. Survivors include brothers, Lawrence Nugent, James (Guliz), William and Paul (Deborah) and sisters, Margaret (William) Ditto, Winifred (Henry) Wells and Patricia (Jerry) Jones.

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SOCIETY, continued from Page 3

of the poorest dioceses and supported missions as well as charitable works of the Church throughout the world. She earnestly prayed for priests, and her mission enabled the Church to send more priests to foreign lands. She was a beacon of hope in a difficult time for the Church and for charity.

Every year, the funds collected for the society are distributed to mission dioceses, congregations and societies that work to spread the Gospel to places untouched by it. The Propagation of the Faith seeks prayer and support for pastoral and evangelization programs of mission dioceses for high school and college students and adults. This includes aid for the education and support of seminarians, religious novices and lay catechists.

Under the direction of the bishops and the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples in Rome, the Society for the Propagation of the Faith seeks to foster an ever-deeper spirit of universal mission and to inform Catholics about the needs of the missions. Also, the society seeks prayers and financial help for mission churches.

The society does not have investments or savings. People establish endowments/legacies with the society as follows:

- In thanksgiving for the blessings of life.
- To honor deceased loved ones.
- To praise God for the gift of faith.
- In gratitude for the opportunities of America or of one's career.
- As an act of spiritual and social justice.

- In reparation for sins.
- As an example of Catholic charity for the next generation.

To help spread the Gospel throughout the world even after death, you can leave your estate, or a portion of it, to the society in your will. Your gift would mean life itself to the Church in many nations. It would be a living tribute to you and a lasting hymn of praise to God. It would be a lifeline and a sign of hope for our brothers and sisters who cry to God for supporting hands in their needs and hardships.

As the mission director for the diocese, I can attest that the legacies, gifts and endowments left to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith will be used entirely for the missionary work of the Church.

In 2020, the Diocese of Columbus contributed \$66,424.57 to the society's membership drive. On behalf of Bishop Robert J. Brennan, I thank you for your generosity. Donors and their intentions remain in the prayers of missionaries. And I sincerely thank you on behalf of the Church's missionaries and the people whom they serve.

With the pandemic's spread across the world, we are reminded by Pope Francis in his message for World Mission Sunday: "Step out of ourselves for love of God and neighbor." Let us witness for the love of God and neighbor through our help. We can share Catholic values and assist with faith formation in pastoral works to spread the good news of Jesus Christ!

PILGRIMAGES, continued from Page 6

Many of these online sites are also appealing for donations because lockdowns and restrictions have seriously reduced a major source of income from pilgrimages and tourism.

- The Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land oversees 55 sanctuaries in Israel, the Palestinian territories and Jordan. Visitors at www.custodia.org/en/sanctuaries can get a more in-depth look at these sacred places, especially the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, revered as the site of Jesus' tomb, in Jerusalem.

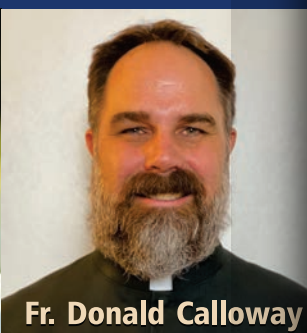
- The Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in Portugal offers a livestream of the chapel and live daily broadcasts of praying the rosary and Mass at www.fatima.pt/en/pages/online-transmissions. The same link also provides a gallery of pictures, videos and "sounds," including an audio library of Marian hymns.



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