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HAVE A BLESSED CHRISTMAS



Editor's reflections by Doug Bean

Ho, ho holy Christmas scenes from Lancaster artist

Focusing on Advent and Christmas in a world consumed by commercialism can be a challenge. Jesus truly is the reason for the season, but images of the Christ Child are relegated mostly to the fringes in the secular world and replaced by Santa Claus, reindeer, lavishly decorated trees, gifts, beautiful lights, sleigh rides or snowy landscapes.

That's not to say those things aren't festive or appropriate for the celebration of Christmas. It just seems that with each passing year, the focus of Christmas moves further away from the commemoration of Christ's birth. For goodness sake, the word "Christmas" is derived from Christ. How can anyone not acknowledge that fact? Thank God for the Knights of Columbus councils trying to spread that message with their "Keep Christ in Christmas" billboards.

Some years ago, a Lancaster doctor and artist was troubled by how Christmas was being portrayed. Images unrelated to the Savior were prevalent, and the focus of celebrating the miraculous event shifted away from holiness and the sacred.

"Somewhere along the way, it became pretty obvious that Santa Claus had become the center of church and Christmas," Dr. Chris Ryckman said in an interview last week. "It wasn't Christ any more, it was Santa Claus. The department stores were capitalizing on Santa but weren't mentioning Christ.

"I started painting Santa in these various poses. I thought 'I'll protest this in my own way and try to send the message of Christ at Christmas.'"

Ryckman expressed his thoughts on canvas through the years, and now they're part of his Santa's True Heart gallery of oil paintings, which are on display at the Jubilee Museum, 57 S. Grubb St., Columbus, through Jan. 6 as part of its annual celebration of Christmas.

The Norman Rockwell-esque paintings are whimsical and poignant. *Give Me Strength* features Santa (which Ryckman points out means "holy" in Italian) sitting in a recliner on Dec. 24, relaxing with a crucifix in his right hand before embarking on his annual journey. *Night Watch* shows a little girl sleeping on the

floor on the night before Christmas, in front of a fireplace with a manger scene on the mantle.

Santa's Real Helper turned out to be one of his most popular creations. Santa is kneeling in a pew praying before the tabernacle at Lancaster St. Mary of the Assumption Church, his family's home parish.

His original intention was to paint the church because he loved the architecture and the spirit of it. "So I'm doing the stained glass and all these different things, and a light went off," he said. "Santa ended up in the lower left corner of the painting as Santa before the tabernacle."

The image eventually wound up being seen far and wide. It landed on a magazine cover in Denver. He also put it on a Christmas card, and sales have reached 30,000.

"I didn't do it for monetary gain," he said. "I did it because of the message."

Santa's Last Supper, also available on a Christmas card, reflects the disordered prominence of Santa, who is pictured sitting in Christ's seat at the Last Supper, surrounded by reindeer in place

of the Apostles.

The idea for that painting originated from singing *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer* during a car ride with his family. "When we were done, I said, 'Can anyone name the disciples?' Everyone is silent. I started saying 'Comet, Cupid, Donder, Blitzen.' I used to know the disciples. (The secularism) even worked on me. It had sort of supplanted Jesus. That's when I did the painting of the Last Supper."

Ryckman, a pulmonologist who retired last October, began painting in 1990 as a hobby and as an outlet from his stressful work as a doctor.

"I saw a lot of very intense things," he said. "Painting was sort of this time when you could really get some deep enjoyment."

His mother was a food editor for *The Cincinnati Enquirer* and a talented artist in her own right who encouraged him as a child. His father was a longtime engineering department head at the University of Dayton.

He also was inspired by Pope St. John Paul II's call for artists to paint beautiful things.

Ryckman started taking drawing lessons from the late Marvin Triguba, an accomplished local



Front Page photo:

Vatican Christmas Nativity
The Holy Family in a Nativity scene made of sand in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican.

CNS photo/Paul Haring

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Bishop Frederick F. Campbell, DD, PhD: President & Publisher

Doug Bean: Editor (dbean@columbuscatholic.org)

Tim Puet: Reporter (tpuet@columbuscatholic.org)

K. Colston-Woodruff: Graphic Designer (kwoodruff@columbuscatholic.org)

Mailing Address: 197 E. Gay St., Columbus OH 43215

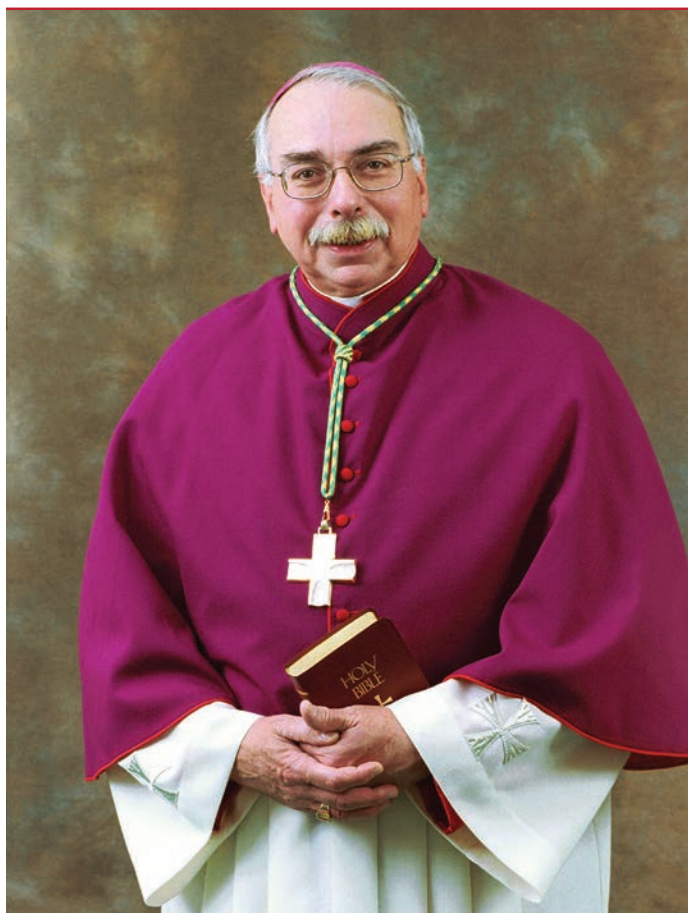
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(subscriptions@columbuscatholic.org)

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See REFLECTIONS, Page 16



Bishop Campbell's 2018 Christmas message

My dear friends,

The secular calendar tells us that, with the Christmas holidays, the year is coming to an end. The manner in which we celebrate these days suggests that Christmas is the summation of all the year's holidays, a time for looking back, adding up the past year's sales, hoping that the Christmas flurry made this a bumper year, and storing up the good cheer of these holidays so as to face the challenge of the winter to come.

Surely, Christians celebrate Christmas as a beginning rather than an end. Our Church's calendar already began a month ago with Advent. If there is anything of an end in commemorating the birth of our Savior, it is the fulfillment of the long days of expectation for the arrival of a deliverer, so ardently hoped for by the prophets. But in this end is our beginning. Christians celebrate Christmas as the entrance of God Himself into our lives by taking on our human flesh and the reality of our earthly existence. The Child Jesus is Emmanuel, God-with-us, who by living a truly human life transforms every moment of it, changing the way we who celebrate the birth of the Savior live, move, and have our being.

The celebration of Christmas is certainly a time of joy, generosity, hope, and the gift of peace, which like all gifts wait to be unwrapped. Christmas is therefore also a time of challenge. As we face the months to come, we commit ourselves to making the transformation of human existence through Christ the reality of our daily living.

May the morning star, the sign of God's presence among us, arise in your hearts and minds, enabling you to reflect its light to all around you. After all, even created nature joins us in this work of illumination, as daylight begins to expand.

I wish you and your families and friends the choicest gifts of this season. A blessed Christmas to you all!

Most Rev. Frederick F. Campbell, DD, PhD

Bishop of Columbus

*Merry
Christmas*

from all of us at
Catholic Times!

Doug
Tim
Kimberly

Holy Day of
Obligation

**Nativity of
the Lord**

December 25

Check individual parishes
for schedule of
Holy Day Mass times

Christmas Mass schedule for diocesan churches

The following is a list of Mass times for the Vigil of Christmas, Monday, Dec. 24, and Christmas Day, Tuesday, Dec. 25, as provided to the *Catholic Times* by parishes. Call the parish for liturgical details about specific Masses.

Ada Our Lady of Lourdes – Dec. 24, 5 p.m.; Dec. 25, 11 a.m.

Bremen St. Mary – Dec. 24, 9 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

Buckeye Lake Our Lady of Mount Carmel – Dec. 24, 6 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

Canal Winchester St. John XXIII – Dec. 24, 5 p.m., church; 5:15 p.m., lower level; 10 p.m., church; Dec. 25, 10 a.m., church.

Cardington Sacred Hearts – Dec. 24, 4:30 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

Chillicothe St. Mary – Dec. 24, 6 and 9 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

Chillicothe St. Peter – Dec. 24, 5 p.m., midnight (with incense); Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m. (with incense).

Circleville St. Joseph – Dec. 24, 5 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

Columbus Christ the King – Dec. 24, 4 p.m. (English), 6 p.m. (Spanish); Dec. 25, 10 a.m. (English), 12:30 p.m. (Spanish).

Columbus Corpus Christi – Dec. 24, 5:30 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

Columbus Holy Cross – Dec. 24, 4 p.m., 7 p.m. (beginning in candlelight); Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

Columbus Holy Family – Dec. 24, 5 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 8:30 a.m. (Latin), 11 a.m.

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

Columbus Holy Rosary-St. John – Dec. 24, 6 p.m.

Columbus Holy Spirit – Dec. 24, 5:30 and 9 p.m. (music at 5 and 8:30); Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

Columbus Immaculate Conception – Dec. 24, 4, 7 and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

Columbus Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal – Dec. 24, 4 and 7 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

Columbus Our Lady of Peace – Dec. 24, 4, 6 and 10 p.m. (caroling at 3:30, 5:30 and 9:30); Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

Columbus Our Lady of Victory – Dec. 24, 4, 7 and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

Columbus Parroquia Santa Cruz – Dec. 24, 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 25, 11 a.m. (both in Spanish), at Columbus Holy Name Church.

Columbus Sacred Heart – Dec. 24, 4 p.m.

Columbus St. Agatha – Dec. 24, 4, 6 and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

Columbus St. Agnes – Dec. 24, 4:30 and 8 p.m.

Columbus St. Aloysius – Dec. 24, 7 p.m.; Dec. 25, noon.

Columbus St. Andrew – Dec. 24, 4 p.m., church; 4 p.m., parish hall; 6 and 10 p.m., church; Dec. 25, 9 and 11 a.m., church.

Columbus St. Anthony – Dec. 24, 4 and 8 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

Columbus Ss. Augustine & Gabriel – Dec. 24, 7 p.m. (English); Dec. 25, 11 a.m. (Vietnamese).

Columbus St. Catharine – Dec. 24, 4 and 6 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

Columbus St. Cecilia – Dec. 24, 5 and 8 p.m., midnight (Office of Readings at 11:15); Dec. 25, 9:30 a.m.

Columbus St. Christopher – Dec. 24, 4 and 8 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

Columbus St. Dominic – Dec. 24, 4 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9:30 a.m.

Columbus St. Elizabeth – Dec. 24, 4, 7 and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

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

Columbus St. James the Less – Dec. 24, 4:30 p.m. (English), 7 p.m. (Spanish), 10 p.m. (English); Dec. 25, 9 a.m. (English), 11 a.m. (Spanish).

Columbus St. John the Baptist – Dec. 24, 5:30 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

Columbus St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic – Dec. 24, 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral – Dec. 24, 4 and 6 p.m., midnight (choir concert at 11); Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m., 5:15 p.m.

Columbus St. Ladislav – Dec. 24, 4 p.m.; Dec. 25, 11 a.m.

Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona – Dec. 24, 4 and 10 p.m. (carols at 9:30); Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m.

Columbus St. Mary, Mother of God – Dec. 24, 4 p.m. and midnight, school gym; 8 p.m. (Korean), St. Leo Church; Dec. 25, 10 a.m., gym.

Columbus St. Mary Magdalene – Dec. 24, 4 and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

Columbus St. Matthias – Dec. 24, 5 and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m. (English), 3 p.m. (Nigerian), 6 p.m. (Brazilian).

Columbus St. Patrick – Dec. 24, 4 and 6:30 p.m., midnight (incense at 6:30 and midnight); Dec. 25, 7 and 10

a.m., noon (incense at noon).

Columbus St. Peter – Dec. 24, 4:30 p.m., church; 4:30 p.m., McEwan Center (both in English); 7 p.m. (English), 9 p.m. (Spanish), midnight (English); Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m. (English), 4:30 p.m. (Spanish).

Columbus St. Philip – Dec. 24, 4 p.m. (music at 3:30); Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

Columbus St. Stephen – Dec. 24, 5 p.m. (English), 7 and 9 p.m. (both Spanish); Dec. 25, 10 a.m. (English), noon (Spanish).

Columbus St. Thomas the Apostle – Dec. 24, 5 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center – Dec. 24, 4, 7 and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

Columbus St. Timothy – Dec. 24, 5, 7 and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 8 and 10 a.m.

Corning St. Bernard – Dec. 24, 5 p.m.

Coshocton Sacred Heart – Dec. 24, 5 and 8 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

Crooksville Church of the Atonement – Dec. 24, 7 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

Danville St. Luke – Dec. 24, 4:30 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

Delaware St. Mary – Dec. 24, 4 p.m., church; 4 p.m., gym; 7 p.m., midnight, church; Dec. 25, 9 and 11 a.m., church.

Dennison Immaculate Conception – Dec. 24, 5 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

Dover St. Joseph – Dec. 24, 5 p.m. (English), 7:30 p.m. (Spanish), 11:30 p.m. (English); Dec. 25, 9 a.m. (English), 6 p.m. (English).

Dresden St. Ann – Dec. 24, 9 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare – Dec. 24, 4, 6:30 and 10 p.m. (music prelude at 9:15); Dec. 25, 9 and 11 a.m.

Gahanna St. Matthew – Dec. 24, 4, 6:30 and 9 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

Glenmont Ss. Peter and Paul – Dec. 24, 8 p.m. (caroling at 7:30).

Granville St. Edward – Dec. 24, 5 and 9 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help – Dec. 24, 4 p.m., church; 4:15 p.m., gym; 7 and 10 p.m., church (incense at 7 and 10); Dec. 25, 9:30 a.m., church.

Groveport St. Mary – Dec. 24, 5 and 9 p.m. (music at 8:30); Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

Heath St. Leonard – Dec. 24, 4 and 8 p.m. (music at 3:30 and 7:30); Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

Hilliard St. Brendan – Dec. 24, 4 p.m., church; 4 p.m., school multipurpose room; 6:30 p.m., church; 6:30 p.m., multipurpose room; 10 p.m., church; Dec. 25, 8:45 and 10:30 a.m., church.

Jackson Holy Trinity – Dec. 24, 6 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

Johnstown Church of the Ascension – Dec. 24, 4:30 and 10 p.m. (carols at 4 and 9:30); Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

Junction City St. Patrick – Dec. 24, 8 p.m.

Kenton Immaculate Conception – Dec. 24, 8 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

Lancaster St. Bernadette – Dec. 24, 6 p.m., midnight (carols at 11:30); Dec. 25, 11 a.m.

Lancaster St. Mark – Dec. 24, 5:30 and 8 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m.

Lancaster St. Mary – Dec. 24, 4, 6:30 and 9 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

Logan St. John – Dec. 24, 4 and 6:30 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

London St. Patrick – Dec. 24, 5 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m.

Marion St. Mary – Dec. 24, 4 and 7 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 11 a.m.

Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes – Dec. 24, 4 and 6 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

Mattingly Settlement St. Mary – Dec. 24, 4:30 p.m.

Millersburg St. Peter – Dec. 24, 5 p.m. (caroling at 4:30); Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m.

Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul – Dec. 24, 4 and 6 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m.

New Albany Church of the Resurrection – Dec. 24, 4, 7 and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

New Boston St. Monica – Dec. 24, midnight; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

New Lexington St. Rose – Dec. 24, 4 and 6 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

New Philadelphia Sacred Heart – Dec. 24, 4 and 7 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 8:30 a.m.

Newark Blessed Sacrament – Dec. 24, 5 and 7:30 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

Newark St. Francis de Sales – Dec.

SCHEDULE, continued from Page 4

24, 4 p.m. (no incense), 6:30 p.m., midnight (music at 11:30); Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

Newcomerstown St. Francis de Sales – Dec. 24, 7 p.m.

Otway Our Lady of Lourdes – Dec. 25, 11 a.m.

Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton – Dec. 24, 4 p.m., church; 4 p.m., activity center; 6 and 11 p.m., church; Dec. 25, 8 and 9:30 a.m., church,

Plain City St. Joseph – Dec. 24, 4 p.m., church; 4 p.m., activity center; 7 p.m., activity center; midnight, church; Dec. 25, 10 a.m., church.

Pond Creek Holy Trinity – Dec. 24, 5 p.m.

Portsmouth Holy Redeemer – Dec.

24, 6:30 p.m., Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

Portsmouth St. Mary (tentative) – Dec. 24, 4 p.m., midnight.

Powell St. Joan of Arc – Dec. 24, 4 p.m., church; 4 p.m., social hall (no incense); 6:30 p.m., church; 6:30 p.m., social hall (no incense); 10 p.m., church; Dec. 25, 9 and 11 a.m., church.

Reynoldsburg St. Pius X – Dec. 24, 4, 6:30 and 10 p.m. (music at 9:30); Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

Somerset Holy Trinity – Dec. 24, 6:30 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

Somerset St. Joseph – Dec. 24, 4 p.m.

Sugar Grove St. Joseph – Dec. 24, 8 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

Sunbury St. John Neumann – Dec. 24, 4, 6:30 and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

Washington Court House St. Colman of Cloyne – Dec. 24, 5 and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

Waverly St. Mary – Dec. 24, 9:30 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9:30 a.m.

Wellston Ss. Peter and Paul – Dec. 24, 4 p.m., midnight.

West Jefferson Ss. Simon and Jude – Dec. 24, 5 and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

West Portsmouth Our Lady of Sorrows – Dec. 24, midnight.

Westerville St. Paul – Dec. 24, 4 p.m., church; 4 p.m., Westerville North High School; 6:30 p.m. (in-

cense; music at 6), church; midnight (incense; music at 11:20), church; Dec. 25, 9 and 10:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m., church.

Wheelersburg St. Peter in Chains – Dec. 24, 4 p.m.

Worthington St. Michael – Dec. 24, 4 and 6 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 9 and 11 a.m.

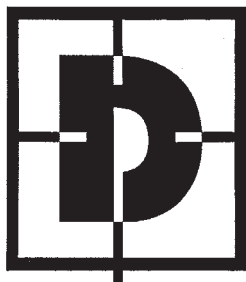
Zaleski St. Sylvester – Dec. 24, 7 p.m.

Zanesville St. Nicholas – Dec. 24, 5 and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas – Dec. 24, 5 p.m., midnight (carols and anthems at 11:30); Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

Zoar Holy Trinity – Dec. 24, 6 and 9 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

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Water leak affects Portsmouth St. Mary

Because of a water leak, the status of Christmas activities at Portsmouth St. Mary Church was uncertain at the time this issue of the *Catholic Times* went to press.

The church has been closed since the leak was discovered earlier in December. There are hopes that new pipes will be installed and the church will be reopened for Christmas, but if the work is incomplete by then, St. Mary will remain closed for Christmas, with the Mass scheduled there at

4 p.m. Monday, Dec. 24 and its midnight Christmas Mass being moved to Portsmouth Holy Redeemer Church.

Activities scheduled at St. Mary, including Masses for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, have been moved to Holy Redeemer. The revised Holy Redeemer Mass schedule for those days is: Monday, Dec. 24, Christmas Eve, 4 and 6:30 p.m. and midnight; Tuesday, Dec. 25, Christmas Day, 9 a.m.

The National
ccaa
CATHOLIC COLLEGE
ADMISSION ASSOCIATION

PART-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT NEEDED

The National Catholic College Admission Association (The National CCAA), based in New Albany, is seeking a part-time (10-15 hours/week) Administrative Assistant.

Applications for the position are due **January 7, 2019**. For details about the position and instructions on how to apply, please go to www.catholiccollegesonline.org/members/careers.html.

Founded in 1959, the National CCAA is a nonprofit organization of Catholic colleges and universities committed to promoting the value of Catholic higher education and to serving students in the transition to college. The National CCAA leadership is comprised of a Board of Directors who are senior-level college admission professionals from member schools, college/guidance counselors from Catholic high schools, and a full-time Executive Director. To learn more about the Association, please go to catholiccollegesonline.org.



Help Wanted!!

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church is looking for a talented vocalist to serve as Music Director/Cantor.

Position Requirements include:
3 years parish music experience,
knowledge of Catholic liturgical music documents and practices,
strong interpersonal and communication skills.

**This is a salaried position.
Interested parties should contact the church office at 614-299-5781.**

PRAYER TO THE VIRGIN (Never known to fail)

Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of heaven, blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in necessity. Oh, star of the sea, help me and show me herein, you are my Heaven and Earth. I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to secure me in this necessity. There are none who can withstand your powers. Oh, show me herein you are my Mother. Oh, Mary conceived without sin, pray for us, who have recourse to thee. (Repeat three times) Oh, Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hand. (Repeat three times) Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads that I can obtain my goals. You gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me, and in all instances in my life, you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in eternal glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine. The person must say this prayer three consecutive days, after three days, the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor has been granted. KSH

Is confessor a worse sinner?; Commemorating day of baptism



QUESTION & ANSWER
Father Kenneth Doyle
Catholic News Service

QI know of several Catholics today who refuse to go to confession because they feel that the priest might be a worse sinner than they are. But yet if they get sick, they want their parish priest to come immediately to give them a blessing. How can I explain to them their inconsistency? (“Confused” in Johnstown, Pennsylvania)

AI am sure that your question is prompted – in part, at least – by the current crisis in the church over clergy sexual abuse of minors. Since 2002, when the U.S. bishops adopted a policy of “zero tolerance,” no cleric credibly accused of this crime is ever allowed to remain in ministry. Thank God, the number of such cases has declined sharply since then, so it is unlikely that the priest hearing your confession today has ever been guilty of such a horrific act.

Does this guarantee that a confessor is spiritually and morally perfect? Of course not; human beings are not perfect people, so if perfection were a prerequisite, there would be no confessors at all. (Didn’t Pope Francis say of himself in 2013 that “even the pope goes to confession every two weeks because the pope, too, is a sinner”?)

A priest, of course, should always strive to be a worthy minister of the sacraments – in the state of grace and trying his best to reflect the sanctity of Christ. But perhaps it might comfort you to know that the efficacy of a sacrament does not depend on the state of soul of the priest who administers it.

The teaching of the church is that the sacraments act – to use a technical expression – *ex opere operato*; that is to say, by the very fact of the rituals being performed. So if a priest in a state of mortal sin were to hear a confession, the penitent’s sins would still be absolved, because it is really Christ who forgives sins in the sacrament and not the priest himself.

As the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states, “From the moment that

a sacrament is celebrated in accordance with the intention of the church, the power of Christ and his Spirit acts in and through it, independently of the personal holiness of the minister” (No. 1128).

QI have heard of families remembering baptismal days through special family meals. What are some other ways to commemorate the day of one’s baptism? (Washington, D.C.)

AYour question raises a good point. The day we were baptized marked a pivotal point in our lives – the moment when we first began to draw near to God through the power of the sacraments. Yet I think it would be safe to say that more than 90 percent of Catholics cannot tell you on what date they were baptized.

In January 2016, at a Sunday Angelus address, Pope Francis gave the audience what he called their “homework”: to try to find out – by asking their parents, godparents or parish – the date of their baptism. “It is the date of our rebirth as children of God,” the pope explained.

There are various ways of marking the anniversary of that date. Loyola Press has on its website the text of a family prayer service, using a bowl of water, a Bible and a baptismal candle.

At the ceremony of baptism, as the baptismal candle is handed to the parents or godparents, the priest or deacon says, “This light is entrusted to you to be kept burning brightly. This child of yours ... is to walk always as a child of the light.”

I usually add a few words of explanation, recommending to the parents that each year, on the anniversary of that baptism, the family might come together, light that same candle and pray for that child as he or she grows up.

Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at askfatherdoyle@gmail.com and 30 Columbia Circle Drive, Albany NY 12203.

Faith in Action

By Jerry Frewalt

Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace



During the celebration of Christmas, we hear the magnificent words of God’s messengers to the shepherds tending their flocks in the dark of night: “Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.” (Luke 2:14) This expression of praise and salutation follows a startling proclamation of good news that a savior has been born.

We tend to focus on peace and good will at this time of year for many reasons. The foremost reason stems from our joining the choir of angels celebrating the birth of the Prince of Peace, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Christmas is a very special birthday celebration. This is a time to come together as families and communities in a spirit of good will, to set aside our differences, and to show our expression of love and gratitude to God and each other.

During the Christmas season, a lesser-known commemoration of the Catholic Church is the World Day of Peace on Jan. 1, New Year’s Day. This day also falls on the holy day of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Jesus’ mother, Mary, is known as Our Lady of Peace and the Queen of Peace, and often is depicted in art holding symbols of peace such as a dove or an olive branch.

I hope you can agree that we can all use a little more peace on earth. Working in the diocesan Office for Social Concerns, I constantly am reminded of the state of our embattled world. Conflicts are currently waged against and within nations, communities, families and individuals. These conflicts come in many forms: war, terrorism, racism, poverty, abortion, gun violence, sexism, sexual abuse, cyberbullying, drug addiction, mental illness, environmental degradation, and the list goes on.

With all of this darkness, we joyfully are reminded there is light – the light of Christ, God’s peace. This annual celebration of Christmas, a celebration of Emmanuel, God is with us, is certainly good news.

One of my favorite scripture quotes is “With God, all things are possible.” It also happens to be the motto of the state of Ohio. With God, peace is possible. However, the object of peace needs our commitment – a commitment like that of the three magi journeying toward the light orienting them to the Messiah.

The journey toward peace starts with our individual beliefs, thoughts and actions. Peace within the heart is the interior springboard for peace among families, communities and the world. Inner peace comes from acknowledgment of our dependence on God. This dependence on the will of God is part of the angels’ message to the shepherds, and to us today.

Our fidelity to God’s will sets the conditions for peace on earth. Doing God’s will means to do what is right. To do what is right means to do justice. It means to be in right relationships with God and our neighbor. Pope St. Paul VI said, “If you want peace, work for justice.”

The journey toward peace requires the actions not only of individuals, but also of our social institutions such as the Church, government, business, health care and education, to name a few. Politics, which means attending to the affairs of our city or our community, the *polis*, requires faithful service and a spirit of good will to work for justice and right relationships, and to establish peace.

Here are some suggestions to help you establish peace **See FAITH IN ACTION, Page 14**

THE EVERYDAY CATHOLIC

By Rick Jeric

Baby, it's cold outside



For the date of this issue, Merry eve of Christmas Eve. As usual, Advent has been filled with preparation and anticipation of the Incarnation, the Word made flesh to dwell among us. It is almost here, and the joyful celebration will last for eight days. And yes, these days, baby, it's cold outside. I will resist commenting on the overanalysis and political stupidity of not playing the song of the same name. But I would imagine that it was a bit cold outside for the birth of the baby Jesus. Even though Google tells us that the average high in Bethlehem in December is 57 and the average low is 47, that is cold for a newborn. I am sure the Holy Family was glad that neither the census nor the star led them to a colder place like Alaska, Canada or Siberia. Or even Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. As we join family and friends in our warm homes for the Christmas season, let us be thankful for our gifts from a loving God and pray for those who have no home. This time of year is filled with so much mail, including Christmas cards. Did you ever stop to read through all the messages inside those cards? It can almost be a meditation to do so. I will share some of those that I have received this Advent.

True Love was born in a stable. God's gift is still the greatest ever given – and the greatest our hearts will ever receive. May the peace of Christmas brighten our lives with hope and love. For all the hearts you bless, wishing you a Christmas blessed with peace and love. There is no better time than Christmas to express our appreciation for your friendship. May all the joys of the season be yours. May the glory of the first Christmas remain in your heart throughout the new year. Happy greetings to you and yours this holiday season. Season's greetings and best wishes for the new year. Wishing you a year of happiness, naps and Cheerios. As the wonder of Christmas surrounds us, may your spirit be renewed with special joy at the miracle of His birth. May the glow of Christmas brighten your season and bring you joy. May God bless your Christmas with hope and peace, and may He always fill your life with love, Merry Christmas.

Everywhere we look at Christmas, we see the baby Jesus. Even though the secular world tries hard to tell us otherwise, Christ always will be in Christmas. Baby, it's cold outside, but the warmth of that baby never can turn cold. Babies are such a great sign of life! I will close with some notes in cards we have received at the Women's Care Center from our blessed and brave moms who have chosen life for their babies. "I have this baby because of you! I thank you for giving me the opportunity to come to a place like this with caring people who want to help someone like me. My baby pushes me to be better." "I called the abortion clinic and made an appointment. Before I went for the abortion, I came here. My counselor said we are here to help you in every way, every moment, every step of the process. That meant everything to me, to have someone at my side. Today, when I look at my son, I wonder what would I have ever done without him." "I love him so much – he's such a little angel – even when he's teething." Yes, baby, it can be cold outside. Let us all enjoy the warmth of God's love manifested in the birth of His Son. Merry Christmas.

Fourth Week of Advent



On His birthday, give Jesus what He wants

By **Leandro (Lany) M. Tapay**
Diocesan Missions Director

Have you noticed it? Nowadays we tend to glamorize the manger scene. But is it realistic? We tend to make our mangers nice with bright lights and beautiful decorations. But the manger where baby Jesus was born was filthy. It was dirty. The shepherds were not well-dressed people, as we see at weddings or at the Polaris or Easton shopping centers. Shepherds were rough, uneducated people. They smelled like sheep. They did not have the opportunity to take showers or change clothes as often as we do. Polite society shunned them.

I am not suggesting for you to put animal urine and manure on the nativity scene in your living room. I am just offering a thought to ponder in hopes of recapturing the true message of the manger in Bethlehem.

In spite of the stable's filthiness, Christ was willing to go into the midst of it. The message of the filthy manger is that even when the condition of our life is not perfect because of our greed, violent attitude, anger, jealousy or lust, Jesus still is willing to be born in our hearts as He was in the manger.

We do not need to stay away from Jesus because we think He would not have anything to do with the mess in our lives. Can you not see it? That is the whole point. Jesus wants to be in the very midst of the mess of our lives every day. He became man to clean up our mess. He wants to be the center of our lives, as He is the center of our Nativity scene. He wants to meet us right where we are.

To make Christ the center of our life, as He is the center of the Nativity scene, we must say "Yes" to God's will, as Mary did. Think about it ... if Mary did not say "Yes," there would have been no Christmas. There would have been no salvation. When Mary was confronted with the will of God,

she put her own will aside and said "Yes" to the will of the Father. And because she said "Yes," salvation came to the world. So it will be for us.

When you say "Yes" to Christ, you will not be alone any more. You will belong to the family of God. You will belong to a community of love. When Jesus came to earth, He was not alone. Many people came to be with Him. And what He wants all of us to do is not to follow Him alone, but to follow Him as a community. It is said that the place of the damned is an eternal aloneness because there is no community there. The damned cannot communicate to each other.

God left heaven to become one of us because He loves us. And what we have to do is have the desire to become one with each other and become a family. A family is what God came to create.

What God wants of you is a relationship with Him. When you are in a relationship of love with somebody, you want to be with that person. So when you receive holy Communion, look at Jesus and say "Yes, Lord, I want You to be in my life. Yes, Lord, I want You to be born in my life. Yes, Lord, I want You to be in my life every day."

In the holy Eucharist, God gives us His ultimate gift – His very own life! What do you and I have to do to participate in this ultimate gift? We need to give ourselves to Him. We need to totally surrender ourselves to Him. We need to say "Yes" to God's will as Mary did. In so doing, we let Jesus be born in the filthy manger of our life.

Would you give the ultimate gift of your life for the ultimate gift of God's life? This opportunity comes to us at holy Communion. When Jesus comes to you at holy Communion, make sure to say, "Jesus, today is your birthday. What do you want?" Jesus will look at you and me and will say, "What I want is you!"

Merry Christmas!

St. Anthony students help Birthright



Columbus St. Anthony School first-grade students and their “adopted grandparents” gave baby clothes, toys and accessories to Birthright of Columbus. The donations will be used to support women facing unplanned pregnancies in central Ohio. Adults shown with the students are (from left) St. Anthony Church parishioners Sue Wilson and Marge Kilanowicz and Anne Sillato of Birthright. (Photo courtesy St. Anthony School)

Girl Scouts learn about plants



Members of Girl Scout Troop 6396 at Columbus Trinity Elementary School learned about succulent plants from Jennifer Finn of Plant Nite. Succulents are plants, such as the varieties of cactus and aloe, that have some parts that are more than normally thickened and fleshy, usually to retain water in arid climates or soil conditions. The word “succulent” comes from the Latin word “sucus,” meaning juice or sap. Pictured are troop members (from left) Vivian Mackey, Summer Martinez-Whlter, Elle Adkins and Maggie Maynard. (Photo courtesy Camille DeLozier)

St. Matthew fourth-grade caroling



Fourth-grade students from Gahanna St. Matthew School visited the Veterans Administration Hospital in Columbus for a Christmas tree lighting ceremony, mixing Christmas carols with patriotic songs for an appreciative crowd of veterans. (Photo courtesy St. Matthew School)

A season of giving at Watterson



Improving the lives of others has been the focus of Columbus Bishop Watterson High School’s service efforts in the weeks leading to Christmas, with weekly collections for the benefit of local charitable organizations. Students and staff collected more than \$10,000 and nearly 10,000 items during November and December.

Pictured are (from left) Ava Gray, Jane Porter, Patrick Hall, Elizabeth Rabold, Cameron Stellar and Will Sullivan, who received 400 items and \$2,162 for the Miracle of Mom’s Memory Foundation, which provides support during holidays throughout the year and at back-to-school time to the poor and needy, particularly families affected by addiction or cancer.

Participants in a collection titled Student Success Stories donated \$2,473 to help families in Columbus City Schools with uniforms and hygiene items. A toy drive collected \$4,014 to benefit the St. Lawrence Haven Christmas store. The St. Francis Center in McArthur received 8,500 cans as the result of a food drive.

The St. Vincent de Paul Club’s annual “caring and sharing” drive brought in enough soap, shampoo, razors, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, lotion, shaving cream, socks and gloves to fill 250 gift bags for the Holy Family Soup Kitchen, which also received extra toiletries and \$300.

The school’s Human Rights Club raised \$1,600 for Mommies Matter, a group that offers pregnant women one-on-one mentoring as well as financial, emotional and physical support throughout their pregnancies and after delivery. (Photo courtesy Bishop Watterson High School)

St. Cecilia celebrates Our Lady of Guadalupe



Columbus St. Cecilia School celebrated Our Lady of Guadalupe’s Dec. 12 feast day at its weekly all-school Mass. Presiding at a Spanish Mass were Father Eduardo Velázquez and Father Leo Connolly. During the homily, the upper school students told the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe in both English and Spanish while the kindergarten students acted out the story. All Spanish-speaking students came forward to recite the Hail Mary in Spanish and then repeated the prayer in English. (Photo courtesy St. Cecilia School)

LIVING Faith

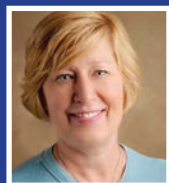
Jesus and our resolutions

At this time of year, we might think about developing new, healthy habits such as exercising more, eating healthy, perhaps getting more sleep, de-stressing and so on. There is nothing wrong with making some resolutions, but do we include Jesus in this process?

It's funny how we don't call on Jesus to help us with our physical goals in times of good health the same way we do when we are experiencing illness, injury or infirmity. Jesus desires to be part of our lives in difficult times and in good times.

Jesus, help me to make food choices that give me strength and vigor to serve you and others. Jesus, guide me to some like-minded Christians who will help me begin to gain my physical strength back with exercise. Jesus, order my day so that I have time to rest and recover. Jesus, help me to sustain a habit of praying and walking daily. Jesus, help me to be at peace with my body.

We know from Scripture that Jesus cares about our physical needs. We see Jesus alert to the physical hunger of the crowd of 5,000. We see him repeatedly



HOLY AND HEALTHY

Lori Crock

pair physical and spiritual healing. He understands that we get tired and hungry, that fasting is hard, and that we are in need of a balance of activity and rest.

Why are we prone to separating our physical and spiritual lives when we know that body and soul are one – and we know that Jesus cares about, and wants to be part of, every single aspect of our lives?

Unfortunately, we don't see ourselves, and others, as Jesus sees us. When it comes to the physical, we can be influenced by popular culture, which focuses on aesthetics. When we see our face or body in a mirror, do we exclaim with delight because we are temples of the Holy Spirit, his beloved children, made in his image and likeness? Or are we more likely to lament about aging or some aspect of our physical appearance?

What would happen if we gave thanks for the gift of God's magnificent creation before us in the mirror and asked Jesus to guide us in our quest for a physical life that reflects his love and helps us advance in our unique mission? Can we be childlike and turn to Jesus to guide us in prayer and good works on our way to developing new holy and healthy habits?

Jesus, help us to be gentle with ourselves, to set realistic physical goals, to accept our physical limitations, whether injury, illness and infirmity, and to unite our physical crosses with your cross. Jesus, remove the scales from our eyes so we see our physical appearance as a reflection of you, and your great love for us, rather than succumbing to a cultural view that attributes beauty to worthiness.

Jesus, we give you our temporal con-

cerns because we know that you care about everything we care about and that you know what is best for us. We pray to move forward with you, in faith and trust, to humbly address our physical and spiritual challenges, desires and concerns, both big and small in the new year.

How will Jesus respond? I think that's the exciting part. We don't know because he works so individually with us. We may even be surprised to find that what we thought was a physical need, like a thirst for a cool drink of water, is actually a thirst for spiritual strength or, in the words of the Samaritan woman, a cry for living water – water that will last.

Jesus, we pray for the courage to entrust you with every aspect of our lives, and to seek you first on our journey to be more holy and healthy.

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

St. Pius X family center dedicated



The new Msgr. David R. Funk Family Center at Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church was dedicated on Sunday, Dec. 9. Pictured are (from left): Msgr. Funk, who was pastor of the church from mid-2007 until July of this year; Deacon Jim Kelly; and Father David J Young, Msgr. Funk's successor as pastor.

The 7,000-square-foot center includes a hall (pictured below) that seats nearly 300 people and can be used for weddings and banquets and divided into three smaller spaces. The building also includes an industrial kitchen, a bride's room, additional meeting space, and restrooms, with a covered portico for pick-up and drop-off access.

Completion of the center concluded Phase I of a three-part expansion which is being paid for through a capital campaign titled "Continuing to Renew All Things in Christ," based on the papal motto of St. Pius X, who was pope from 1903 to 1914. This phase also included renovation and addition of a second story to Hohman Hall, the parish's original building, which now will serve as a latchkey and youth ministry space and be used for storage.

New administrative offices also have been built as part of an expanded rectory, resulting in more living space for Father Young and Father Milton Kiocha.

Phase II of the program involves expansion of the church's narthex to allow for building of an Adoration Chapel, a doubling of the size of the church's gathering space, a renovated quieting room, a new choir room, a new bride's room, new bathrooms, much larger resource racks and an expanded lending library.

The cost of both phases is \$3.88 million. So far, approximately \$3.6 million has been pledged and \$2.4 million has been received. (Photos courtesy St. Pius X Church)

YEAR IN REVIEW

CELEBRATION OF 150TH ANNIVERSARY
HIGHLIGHTS ACTIVITIES FOR 2018 IN DIOCESE

By Tim Puet

Catholic Times Reporter

The year 2018 marked the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Diocese of Columbus on March 3, 1868. Bishop Frederick Campbell celebrated the diocese's official anniversary Mass on April 22 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral.

In his homily, he reviewed the history of the diocese and of Catholicism in Ohio, beginning with the first Mass in the state, which was celebrated in 1808 in Somerset. He said that in looking back to the past and forward to the future, "three virtues should animate our thoughts and hearts: gratitude, fidelity and hope."

As part of the anniversary celebration, all parishes of the diocese were invited to plant one or more trees on their grounds. Several such tree plantings occurred throughout the year.

Another anniversary event was The Shepherd's Tour, conducted by Father Joshua Wagner, pastor of Columbus St. Dominic and Holy Rosary-St. John churches who has led several pilgrimages to historic churches in the diocese.

The Shepherd's Tour, which took place on three Saturdays in June, departing from various parts of the diocese, took that name because it visited the burial sites of six of the 10 bishops

of Columbus who preceded Bishop Campbell. Stops also were made at Newark Blessed Sacrament, Newark St. Francis de Sales, and Granville St. Edward churches and St. Turibius Chapel of the Pontifical College Josephinum.

In March, Bishop Campbell wrote a pastoral letter to the faithful of the diocese on the subject of drug addiction. In the document, he said, "We live in a narcotic culture which seems to teach that the purpose of human life is pleasure and entertainment. ... that often defines the worth of human persons in terms of their productive value and their usefulness, rather than their inherent dignity."

"The church has a unique role to play in this effort," Bishop Campbell said. "We teach a way of life which brings a true happiness, a way in which we are able to face difficulties with hope and to work for the common good with conviction."

He said the church "must be ready to accompany with compassion all those in need" with "a readiness to assist, a commitment to strengthening the bonds of family life and community support, and a promise of new hope and a future worthy of human dignity."

The diocese created a new Office of Catholic Ethnic Ministries, which combines the work of the existing

Black Catholic Ministries and Catholic Latino Ministry offices and expands the diocese's outreach to the local African/Haitian and Asian/Pacific Catholic communities.

Its director is Pamela Harris, who had been employed by the Diocese of Richmond, Virginia, since 2008 as director of its ministries for people of African descent and the Asian-Pacific community. The office also has two other staff members and plans to hire consultants for the Latino, African-American, African/Haitian and Asian/Pacific communities.

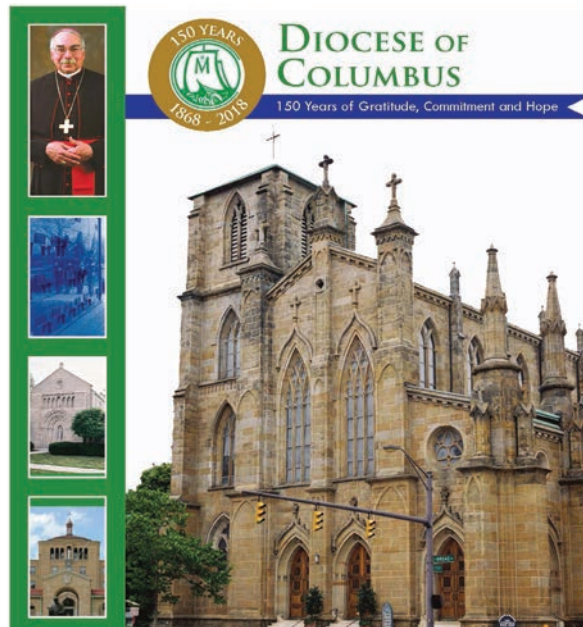
Angela Johnston, who had been the diocese's director of Latino ministry for more than 16 years, died on Jan. 15. She had worked with people of various Hispanic and Latino cultures for more than 37 years.

Before being hired by the diocese in July 2001 as director of the Hispanic center at Parroquia Santa Cruz in Columbus, she had held positions with the Columbian Fathers, Catholic Relief Services, and the Peace Corps in Peru, Bolivia, Honduras, Jamaica, El Salvador and Guatemala.

Adam Dufault began work on April 30 as episcopal moderator of Catholic education and superintendent of schools for the diocese. He succeeded Dr. Joseph Brettnacher, who resigned in 2017 to become principal of an Indianapolis Catholic high school and be closer to family members. Susan Streitenberger of the Office of Catholic Schools served as interim director of diocesan schools until Dufault was appointed.

Dufault came to Columbus from the Archdiocese of Denver, where he had been serving as interim school superintendent and previously was associate superintendent. He also was a teacher, assistant principal and principal in the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Jerry Freewalt was appointed director of the diocesan Office for Social



The diocese celebrated its 150th anniversary in 2018. St. Joseph Cathedral is shown in the large picture.

Concerns in June. He had been associate director, and has been a diocesan employee since 1995. The previous director, Mark Huddy, will focus his attention on his duties as episcopal moderator for the office and for diocesan Catholic Charities.

Sister Sharen Baldy, SCN, retired from the Joint Organization for Inner-City Ministries after 16 years, most of them as JOIN's associate director. She has returned to her community, the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth, to continue helping those in need, and is now serving in Louisville, Kentucky.

Bob Overman retired as director of the Sts. Peter and Paul Retreat Center in Newark after 10 years at the center and 13 years with the diocese. He and his wife, Kathy, had come to Columbus after operating an inn in Pennsylvania's Pocono Mountains for 13 years. Use of the retreat center property in Licking County, a former seminary, for retreats, conferences and other events has increased substantially during the last decade.

The diocese participated this year for the first time in the nationwide #iGive Catholic crowdfunding program on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving. Donations from 646 people



The diocese's five newest priests (from left, front): Frs. Todd Lehigh, Thomas Herge, Chris Tuttle, Brett Garland and Edward Shikina, with Msgr. Christopher Schreck, Bishop Campbell and Fr. Paul Noble.

YEAR IN REVIEW, continued from Page 10



Adam Dufault, who became superintendent of diocesan schools on April 30, with Columbus St. Anthony School students. He came from the Archdiocese of Denver.

totaling \$123,155.10 were made to 74 diocesan parishes, schools and non-profit ministries. The largest amount was given to Columbus St. Anthony Church and School, which received \$33,335.10.

More than 180 parish and school representatives attended a diocesan seminar on suicide prevention and in-

tervention in September at the Pontifical College Josephinum. They heard several speakers bring messages of hope and healing, with the overall theme of creating a culture of caring that will keep people from considering suicide. Parish and school groups closed the day by working on suicide prevention action plans for their particular situations.

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Pamela Harris, director of the new diocesan Catholic Ethnic Ministries office.

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Columbus St. Dominic Church



Participants in The Shepherd's Tour at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral. The pilgrimage visited the burial sites of six bishops of Columbus.
CT file photos

the Catholic Men's Luncheon Club.

Vollmer, 69, has been one of the parish's most active members since arriving in central Ohio eight years ago to be closer to family members.

He has spent many hours doing repair work in the church and the rectory, serving as substitute sacristan and altar server, helping parishioners needing assistance with home projects, and taking part in activities of



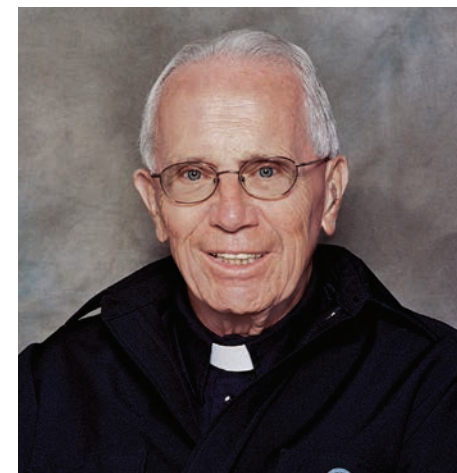
Columbus St. Dominic Church suffered damage as a result of a gas explosion which destroyed a nearby duplex on June 22. No one at the parish was injured.

the Knights of Columbus and the parish men's ministry. He also has spent hundreds of hours volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House and working with his fellow veterans through the parish's military outreach and other programs for those who have been in the armed forces.

Bishop Campbell ordained five new

and Father Christopher Tuttle, Portsmouth St. Mary, Portsmouth Holy Redeemer, New Boston St. Monica, Wheelersburg St. Peter in Chains, Jackson Holy Trinity and Wellston Ss. Peter and Paul.

Five men who anticipate being ordained as priests in 2019 were ordained as deacons by Bishop Camp-



Father James Ogurchock died at age 85 on July 7. He was a priest for 60 years.

priests for the diocese on May 26. The priests and their first assignments as parochial vicars are: Father Brett Garland, Columbus St. Mary Magdalene, Columbus St. Aloysius and Columbus St. Agnes; Father Thomas Herge, Chillicothe St. Peter, Washington Court House St. Colman of Cloyne and Waverly St. Mary; Father Todd Lehigh, Columbus St. Andrew; Father Edward Shikina, Hilliard St. Brendan;

bell on May 4. Deacons PJ Brandimarti, Bryant Haren, Kyle Tennant and Chris Yakkel are completing their final year of theological studies at the Josephinum, and Deacon Brian Beal is studying at Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary in Weston, Massachusetts.

Brogan Ryan of Columbus St. Cath-

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arine Church, who also expects to be ordained to the priesthood in 2019, was ordained to the diaconate on Aug. 26 at Moreau Seminary in Notre Dame, Indiana, one day after professing final vows as a member of the Congregation of Holy Cross.

The Dominican Sisters of Peace welcomed three sisters to new stages on their journey to final profession at the congregation's July assembly.

Sister Phuong Thuy Vu, OP, has been accepted into the congregation as a novice after two years of discernment and preparation as a candidate. She will spend two years in the novitiate, after which she may request to make temporary vows as a Dominican Sister of Peace.

Sisters Ana Gonzalez, OP, and Margaret Uche, OP, both made their temporary vows, which will last for at least three years, with the possibility that they one day will make a lifetime commitment by taking perpetual vows.

Father James C. Csaszar, 44, died on Dec. 20, 2017. He has been a priest of the diocese for 19 years and was pastor of the New Albany Church of the Resurrection at the time of his death. He previously was pastor at Kenton Immaculate Conception and the Perry County Consortium of Parishes (New Lexington St. Rose, Corning St. Bernard, Junction City St. Patrick and the Crooksville Church of the

Atonement).

Msgr. George J. Schlegel, 78, a priest for 51 years, died on April 12. He was pastor at Westerville St. Paul, Powell St. Joan of Arc and New Philadelphia Sacred Heart. He retired in 2010 but remained active in retirement, assisting primarily at St. Joan of Arc as well as at a number of other parishes.

Msgr. Mario Serraglio, 84, died on May 25. He had been a priest for 60 years, first with the PIME missionary order. He spent 46 years as a priest of the Diocese of Columbus, serving as pastor at New Lexington St. Rose, Lancaster St. Mark, Chillicothe St. Mary, Columbus St. John the Baptist and Columbus St. Agnes. He retired in 2003 and lived for many years in Canal Winchester, where he assisted at St. John XXIII Church. He also celebrated Mass frequently at Reynoldsburg St. Pius X and other churches.

Father Lawrence J. Reichert, 73, died on June 30. He was a priest for 47 years, was pastor at Columbus Holy Name, Groveport St. Mary, and the Johnstown Church of the Ascension, and was a teacher at Columbus Bishop Watterson and Bishop Hartley and Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans high schools. He retired in 2017.

Father James A. Ogurchock, 85, died on July 7. In his 60 years as a priest, he served in a variety of roles, mostly notably as chaplain of Mount



Bishop Campbell was the celebrant for the diocese's 150th anniversary Mass on April 22 at St. Joseph Cathedral. The diocese was founded on March 3, 1868.



Five men who anticipate being ordained as priests in 2019 were ordained as deacons by Bishop Campbell. The men are now in their final year of theological studies.

Carmel East Hospital in Columbus from 1981 to his retirement in 2008. He also was a teacher and principal, assistant superintendent of diocesan schools, and diocesan vicar for reli-

gion in retirement, residing for many years at Hilliard St. Brendan Church.

He did much of his studying for the priesthood in secret because of the occupation of his homeland of Lithuania



More than 180 parish and school representatives attended a seminar on suicide prevention and intervention in September at the Pontifical College Josephinum.

gious. After retirement, he assisted at Gahanna St. Matthew and Columbus St. Catharine churches.

Father Saulius P. Laurinaitis, 96, died on Sept. 7. He would have celebrated his 70th anniversary of ordination in December and was the diocese's senior priest in both age and years of service. He was pastor of Newark Blessed Sacrament and Bremen St. Mary churches, associate pastor at many other parishes, taught and served at several diocesan institutions, and remained active for three decades

by the Soviet Russians twice and the Nazis once. He came to Columbus as a refugee in 1951.

Father Lawrence H. Nolan, OCSO, died on Sept. 21. He was a member of the Order of Cistercians of the Strict Observance, commonly known as the Trappists. He was a priest for 60 years, spending the earliest years of his priesthood as a monk at the New Melleray Abbey in Iowa, then moving to Dayton and Cincinnati. He had lived since 1976 in Columbus, where

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he served as a chaplain at hospitals and facilities for the aged and spent many years in ministry and residence at St. Therese's Retreat Center.

Father Adrian Dionne, OP, 96, died on Oct. 11 at the Mohun Health Care Center in Columbus, where he had lived for the three years before his death. He was a priest of the Dominican Order for 69 years. His funeral Mass was at Somerset St. Joseph Church, where he was pastor from 1961 to 1973 and 1989 to 2001. He also was pastor of Somerset Holy Trinity Church from 1989 to 2001.

Deacon Robert A. Killoren Jr., 67, died on Feb. 5. He was ordained as a deacon of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Pennsylvania, in

Religious sisters who died in 2018 and served in or were natives of the Diocese of Columbus, or who were living in the diocese at the time of their deaths, were: Sister Francine Ashoff, OP, 95, Jan. 9; Sister Anne Hagedorn, SCN, 91, Jan. 25; Sister Anne Marie McCarrick, SNDdeN, 87, Feb. 6; Sister M. Sharon Goodburn, OSF, 89, Feb. 23; Sister Elizabeth Anne Heery, OP, 83, March 8; Sister Mary Irene Lolli, OP, 92, April 1; Sister M. Serafino Besozzi of the Assumption, OCarm, 90, April 11; Sister Helene Barbara Groom, OP, 86, April 11; Sister Martin Damien Miquelon, OP, 84, April 16; Sister Lucille Winstel, OP, 96, May 6; Sister Mary (Eulalia) O'Hara, OP, 77, May 1; Sister



Bishop Frederick Campbell with participants in the diocese's annual Jubilee of Anniversaries who have been married for 60 years or longer.

1999, and moved to central Ohio to take a position with The Ohio State University in 2006, when Bishop ick Campbell granted him canonical facilities in the Diocese of Columbus. He performed diaconal service at the New Albany Church of the Resurrection and the Johnstown Church of the Ascension and was chaplain of the Columbus Diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting from 2006 to 2011.

Mary Jordan Langenhennig, OP, 83, May 25; Sister Janice Ernst, SC, 83, June 11; Sister Catherine "Kay" Burland, OP, 83, July 12; Sister Corinne Staub, OP, 90, Aug. 9; Sister Mary Sarita McEneaney, OP, Sept. 28; Sister William Elsener, OSF, 93, Sept. 29; Sister Mary Catherine Doone, OSF, 84, Oct. 7; Sister Mary Carmel Lectora, OP, 96, Oct. 12; and Sister Phyllis Dugan, SNDdeN, 90, Oct. 22.

Church architecture series planned

Noted liturgical architect William Heyer will present three talks on understanding sacred architecture on consecutive Thursday evenings at the Spirit Center in the basement of Lancaster St. Mary School, 309 E. Chestnut St.

He will speak on Jan. 10 on architecture of churches from the ancient classical period through the Renaissance, on Jan. 17 about churches from the Renaissance to the 20th century, and on Jan. 24 on contemporary churches. All the talks will begin at 7 p.m.

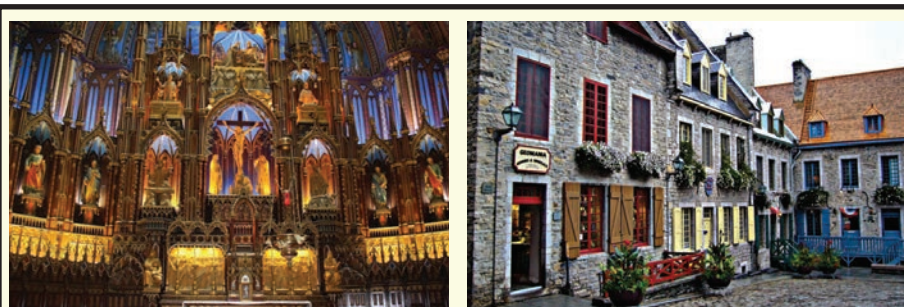
The series will explore the origins and growth of Catholic architecture through the ages and the language and expression of Christian architecture.

The timeless nature of sacred architecture finds its roots in our desire to be part of something greater than ourselves.

Christian architecture reveals that "something greater" to the world and shows our desire to express true reverence to our Creator. Heyer will examine how this was accomplished in ancient times and even in our own diocese.

Heyer has been the architect for several churches in the Diocese of Columbus and elsewhere, including St. Turibius Chapel of the Pontifical College Josephinum.

More information on the talks is available at www.stmarylancastr.org.



Fr. Ted Machnik's

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- Boat Tour of 1,000 Island area on St. Lawrence Seaway
- Accommodations in 3 - 4 star Hotels
- 2 Nights in Alexandria Bay, NY
- 2 Nights in Montréal, Canada
- 2 Night in Québec City, Canada
- 7 Breakfast, and 7 Lunches
- Admittance fees for all scheduled featured activities
- Local tour guides as needed
- All transportation, except optional Taxi service (Included: Private Motor-Coach Service, and Boat)
- All travel, City, Tourist, Hotel & Bed Taxes

** Price per person based on multiple occupancy, 2 per room. Single Supplement add \$655. **Not included:** dinners, hotel room service, passports/passcards, items of a personal nature & travel insurance. Travel Insurance Available, call Chris for quote.

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Fourth Sunday of Advent (Cycle C)

The happy place

By Kevin Perrotta

Catholic News Service

Micah 5:1-4

Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19

Hebrews 10:5-10

Gospel: Luke 1:39-45

A technique for dealing with anxiety is “going to the happy place.” The happy place is a situation where you feel comfortable and relaxed. Faced with something stressful, you open the memory file and imagine being there now, shutting out the stomach-churning stuff roundabout.

Christmas is a great happy place. To escape for a day from the darker realities of life, you can go to church, unwrap presents, have family time and feel the warmth of Christmases past when a glow of childhood innocence and joy shone on everything.

No problem with that, so long as you keep the reality in view. Going to the happy place is something you can do in your head. Christmas is something God has done in the world.

Christmas is God coming to the unhappy place. Into a world lacking peace, he has come to bring peace. In fact, as the prophet Micah says in today’s first reading, “He shall be peace” (Micah 5:4). Peace is in him.

Christmas is so big that no one can encompass it. The God who has creat-

ed a mind-numbingly enormous universe, who brought forth life on earth through incomprehensible ages – that God, in his peace, has come into our world. And he has come in a way that is accessible to each of us – indeed, that addresses each of us. He has come as Jesus, born in Bethlehem.

What this peace that transcends anything we can imagine means for you is a mystery to enter into and experience. It is something that happens between you and this Jesus born in Bethlehem.

The effect of this peace in your own troubled corner of the world is not something you can figure out. It is a gift to be revealed.

You cannot know what help, what forgiveness, what wisdom, what reassurance, what strength, what hope this peace will bring you, or how. It’s the peace that he wants to give you in the particular way he wants to give it. It’s the peace he wants to be for you.

In these last few days before Christmas, it would be worth spending a few minutes thinking about how Jesus might be asking you to say “Yes” to his peace, “Yes” to him.

Perrotta is the editor and an author of the “Six Weeks with the Bible” series, teaches part time at Siena Heights University and leads Holy Land pilgrimages. He lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

FAITH IN ACTION, continued from page 6

on earth: Celebrate Christmas with praise and gratitude; give generously to the Catholic Charities collection and other worthy charities; read Pope Francis’ 2019 World Day of Peace message, “Good Politics Is At the Service of Peace”; read previous World Day of Peace messages, starting in 1968; promote Poverty Awareness Month in January; learn about National Migration Week; participate in the diocesan Respect Life Mass or March for Life; read the new U.S. bishops’ pastoral letter on racism,

“Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love”; participate in the Family Mission Rosary; share diocesan Hope Task Force resources about drug addiction and suicide prevention and intervention; or commit to a project from the diocesan Creation Care Guide.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas and a new year filled with God’s peace!

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

 Living ‘I Do’ – Weekly Marriage Tips 

Mother Teresa told her sisters, “Wash the plate not because it is dirty, nor because you are told to wash it, but because you love the person who will use it next.” When you season daily drudgery by offering it in love for your spouse, you inject new love into your marriage. Your way to Heaven passes through such simple actions, the living of our vocation.

Diocese of Columbus Marriage and Family Life Office

THE WEEKDAY
BIBLE READINGS

12/24-12/29

MONDAY

2 Samuel 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16
Psalm 89:2-5,27,29
Luke 1:67-79

TUESDAY (Night)

Isaiah 9:-1-6
Psalm 96:1-3,11-13
Titus 2:11-14
Luke 2:1-14

WEDNESDAY

Acts 6:8-10;7:54-59
Psalm 31:3-4,6-8,16-17
Matthew 10:17-22

THURSDAY

1 John 1:4
Psalm 97:1-2,5-6,11-12
John 20:1a,2-8

FRIDAY

1 John 1:5-2:2
Psalm 124:2-5,7b-8
Matthew 2:13-18

SATURDAY

1 John 2:3-11
Psalm 96:1-3,5b-6
Luke 2:22-35

THE WEEKDAY
BIBLE READINGS

12/31-1/5

MONDAY

1 John 2:18-21
Psalm 96:1-2,11-13
John 1:1-18

TUESDAY

Numbers 6:22-27
Psalm 67:2-3,5-6,8
Galatians 4:4-7
Luke 2:16-21

WEDNESDAY

1 John 2:22-28
Psalm 98:1-4
John 1:19-28

THURSDAY

1 John 2:29-3:6
Psalm 98:1,3cd-6
John 1:29-34

FRIDAY

1 John 3:7-10
Psalm 98:1,7-9
John 1:35-42

SATURDAY

1 John 3:11-21
Psalm 100:1b-5
John 1:43-51

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION
MASS SCHEDULE: DEC. 23, 2018

SUNDAY MASS

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

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. Check local cable system for cable channel listing.

Mass from Our Lady of the Angels Monastery, Birmingham, Alabama, 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, Alabama (Encores at noon, 7 p.m. and midnight). See EWTN above; and on I-Lifetv (Channel 113 in Ada, Logan, Millersburg, Murray City and Washington C.H.; Channel 125 in Marion, Newark, Newcomerstown and New Philadelphia; and Channel 207 in Zanesville);

8 p.m., St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com.

We pray the Sanctoral and Seasonal Propers and Week I of the Liturgy of the Hours.

Books for Christmas

Take a stand against the electrification of everything – give (real) books this Christmas. Some recommendations:

Paul: A Biography, by N.T. Wright (HarperOne): Wright’s remarkable ability to explicate the New Testament gives familiar passages new depths of meaning. His reconstruction of what Saul of Tarsus experienced on the Damascus road is deeply moving, even thrilling. And in this season of Catholic anger and grief, Wright’s analysis of Paul’s pastoral struggles is a helpful reminder that the Church has always been something of a mess.

Vatican I: The Council and the Making of the Ultramontane Church, by John W. O’Malley, SJ (The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press): Father O’Malley completes his conciliar trilogy (which includes works on Trent and Vatican II) with a nicely rendered account of Vatican I that’s fair to all those involved in some serious ecclesiastical elbow-throwing. Now that ultramontanism – an excessively Petrocentric concept of the Church – has migrated from the starboard to the port side of the Barque of Peter, Vatican I is also useful in explaining why that 19th-century council’s work had to be completed by Vatican II’s *Dogmatic Constitution on the Church*.

The Disputed Teachings of Vatican II: Continuity and Reversal in Catholic Doctrine, by Thomas G. Guarino (Eerdmans): As the Church continues to debate the legacy of the Second Vatican Council, Father Guarino’s



THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE George Weigel

carefully crafted argument that Vatican II was a council of development, not rupture, is a much-needed antidote to some current oversimplifications. It’s the perfect gift for the Traditionalist millennial who has no idea why Vatican II was necessary and for those who believe the Catholic Church does “paradigm shifts.”

The Last Homily: Conversations with Father Arne Panula, edited by Mary Eberstadt (Emmaus Road): Want a window into why the New Evangelization has engaged hundreds of young professionals in the nation’s capital over the past decade or so? Eberstadt’s conversations with the leader of that effort, recorded in the months before his death, introduce those who never met Father Arne to a model priest and spiritual director – and remind those who knew and loved him how privileged we were to enjoy his company and to glimpse sanctity and intelligence working in tandem.

How Catholic Art Saved the Faith: The Triumph of Beauty and Truth in Counter-Reformation Art, by Elizabeth Lev (Sophia Institute Press): You’ve never really seen a painting or a sculpture until you’ve “seen” it through the discerning eye of Elizabeth Lev, a master teacher and guide. In our confused culture, beauty just might create new pathways to truth and goodness; Professor Lev’s story

of how something like that happened 500 years ago is thus evangelically challenging and pastorally suggestive for missionary disciples today.

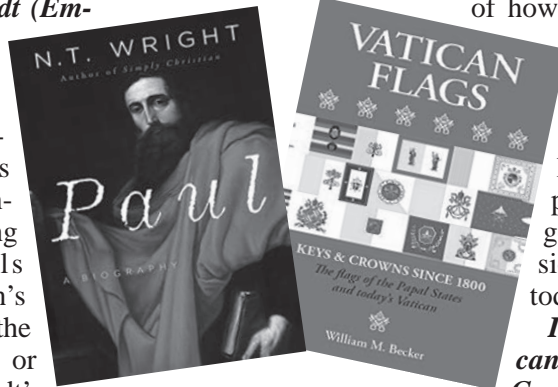
In the Hurricane’s Eye: The Genius of George Washington and the Victory at Yorktown, by Nathaniel Philbrick (Viking): At a moment in which American public officials too often act like petulant toddlers, it’s good to remember that character counts in politics and that insight, courage, and selflessness can rally the confused, the cowardly, and the self-centered to

act for the common good. That was Washington’s great accomplishment in the months leading up to the decisive American victory at Yorktown in October 1781: by force of character, he held together a tottering revolution even as he displayed a shrewd understanding of how sea power shapes history.

Vatican Flags: Keys & Crowns Since 1800 – The Flags of the Papal States and Today’s Vatican, by William M. Becker (North American Vexillological Association): I’ve been a flag buff since childhood. But until a few months ago, I hadn’t known there was a discipline called “vexillology” (the study of flags), or that it had an association. I’m glad I found out, as Father Becker’s beautifully illustrated book is full of wonderful flags (like the naval ensign flying on a papal warship), even as it offers a brief course in modern Vatican history. Get it from the association by going to the “Shop” tab at the Web site: <http://nava.org>.

Corduroy Mansions, The Dog Who Came in from the Cold, and A Conspiracy of Friends, by Alexander McCall Smith: This series of charming novels features a winsome Pimlico terrier named Freddie de la Haye and a cast of human characters whose foibles McCall Smith treats with humor and deep sympathy. It’s the literary equivalent of comfort food. And as this year has taught us, we all need that from time to time.

George Weigel is a distinguished senior fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C.



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PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

ALBERS, Ruth C. (Begley), 90, Dec. 5
St. Joan of Arc Church, Powell

ALONSO, Peter C., 95, Dec. 11
St. Bernadette Church, Lancaster

BELL, Dorothy J. (Lyman), 88, Dec. 12
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany

BERWANGER, William L., 75, Dec. 8
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

BESTIC, Pamela J. (Remen), 66, formerly of Worthington, Dec. 6
Church of the Epiphany, Port Orange, Fla.

BUMBICO, Nancy L. (Logsdon), 88, Dec. 15
St. Matthew Church, Gahanna

BUSHNELL, Evelyn "Nonny" (Kline), 87, Dec. 6
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

CHRYSTAL, Jayne (Barry), 69, Dec. 11
St. Anthony Church, Columbus

COUGHLIN, Albert L., 88, Dec. 13
St. Joan of Arc Church, Powell

CRAWFORD, Joan F. (Culp), 95, Dec. 13
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

DONAVAN, Daniel E., 61, Dec. 7
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

GEIST, Thomas J. "Jerry," 73, Dec. 8
Resurrection Cemetery Chapel, Lewis Center

HEDMAN, Louise (Mesi), 93, Dec. 13
St. Brendan Church, Hilliard

KEARNS, Thomas E., 87, Dec. 14
Our Lady of Peace Church, Columbus

KERN, Steven L., 66, Dec. 9
St. Mark Church, Lancaster

KOKER, Gretchen S. (Moskal), 57, Dec. 15
St. Matthew Church, Gahanna

McMAHON, Lorraine M., 102, Dec. 14
St. Anthony Church, Columbus

PASKELL, David J., 22, Dec. 16
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

TRINKLE, Teresa L. "Tess," 101, Dec. 13
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

WOLFE, Jackie J. (Brickles), 69, formerly of Westerville, Dec. 10
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, New Port Richey, Fla.

ZIETSMA, Ann, Dec. 13
St. Brendan Church, Hilliard

ZITKO, Charlotte J. (Bernosky), 79, Dec. 8
St. John Neumann Church, Sunbury

Donald N. Fracasso Jr.

Funeral Mass for Donald M. Fracasso Jr., 71, who died on Thursday, Dec. 13, was celebrated on Monday, Dec. 18 at Columbus Immaculate Conception Church. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

He was born on Aug. 12, 1947 in Columbus to Donald and Lydia Fracasso.

He had been employed as a custo-

dian at Columbus Bishop Watterson High School since 2009.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Johnnie; and sister, Roseann. Survivors include his wife, Debbie (Ulrey); son, Donnie (Heather); daughter, Lauren (Ryan) Steinbauer; brother, Robert (Kathy); two grandsons; and four granddaughters.

Ruth E. Hawk

Funeral Mass for Ruth E. Hawk, 97, who died on Tuesday, Dec. 11, was celebrated on Monday, Dec. 17 at Columbus Holy Spirit Church. Burial was at West Union Street Cemetery in Athens.

She was a past president of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women and was a longtime sacristan and past president of the Altar and Rosary Society at Holy Spirit Church.

She was employed as a procure-

ment analyst for 30 years at the Defense Construction Supply Center in Columbus.

She was preceded in death by her parents, William and Florence Garber; and brother, William. Survivors include a daughter, Marijane (Bradford) Cronk; three granddaughters; two step-grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and two step-great-grandchildren.

St. Paul to host 'Awakening Faith' program

Do you know someone who has left the Church? Reasons for doing so may include losing interest, doubts, divorce and remarriage, misconceptions, or anger at the abuse crisis, among other things. Belonging to a faith community that truly instills inspiration through acts of service to those in need is a mark of Christian discipleship.

Westerville St. Paul Church, 313 N. State St., has a six-week program titled "Awakening Faith: Reconnecting With Your Catholic Faith" designed to answer such questions by explor-

ing the basics of Church teachings. Its next sessions will be from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Jan 17, 24 and 31 and Feb. 7, 21 and 28, all Thursdays, in Room 3 on the lower level of the church building.

A team of parishioners will provide a comfortable environment in which those who attend can investigate and reconnect with their roots. If you know of a friend who could benefit from this program, consider encouraging that person to attend.

For more information, contact Susan Bellotti at (614) 882-2109.

To have an obituary printed in the Catholic Times, send it to tpuet@columbuscatholic.org

REFLECTIONS, continued from Page 2

portrait artist. He attended a class every Tuesday, then moved into painting. Among his early subjects were his four daughters and his wife, Therese.

He continues to meet with a group of artists each week and now hosts art retreats at Little Brook Meadows, a 50-acre facility in the Lancaster area.

His exhibition at the Jubilee Museum was a long time in the

making.

Ryckman's family owned the Four Reasons Bakery & Deli in historic downtown Lancaster near their 19th century home. A year or two after the restaurant opened, Father Kevin Lutz, now the pastor at Columbus St. Mary, Mother of God Church in German Village, came in, saw the painting of Santa praying in the church and said he would like it for the museum.

Father Lutz gave his business card to Ryckman's wife. They stored it away, never giving it a second thought to contact him.

Twenty-three years went by, and then one day, Ryckman asked his wife, "Do you remember where that priest's card is?" She found it, "I called him and the next thing we're back talking to one another. Father Lutz saw what I was doing. I got involved in the museum.

We saw that these Santa paintings could complement the nativity scenes," he said.

In addition to the exhibit at the Jubilee Museum, Ryckman's paintings and cards can be viewed and ordered at csryckman.com. Contact information also is listed on the website.

Have a blessed Christmas and a joyous New Year.

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DECEMBER

THROUGH JAN. 6, SUNDAY

Christmas Display at Jubilee Museum

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Jubilee Museum, 57 S. Grubb St., Columbus. Christmas display featuring hundreds of Nativity sets from around the world, plus Christmas-themed oil paintings by Lancaster artist Chris Ryckman. \$10 adults, \$5 seniors and students. **614-600-0054**

21, FRIDAY

Catholic Singles on Fire for Christ

6 p.m., Chapel, Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, New Albany. Monthly meeting of Catholic Singles on Fire for Christ, for anyone older than 35 who is single in the eyes of the Catholic Church and seeks to grow in faith, bring hope to others and share the love of Christ. Begins with prayer and Adoration, followed by dinner at a restaurant. **614-855-1400**

22, SATURDAY

Wilderness Outreach Advent Hike

7:30 a.m. to noon, Clear Creek Metro Park, off U.S. 33 near the Fairfield-Hocking county border. Wilderness Outreach 12-mile hike for men and boys. Meet at Barnebey Hambleton area at west end of park. Bring water, snacks and appropriate clothing. **614-679-6761**

Life and Mercy Mass in Plain City

9 a.m. Mass, St. Joseph Church, 140 West Ave., Plain City. Saturday Life and Mercy Mass, followed by rosary and confession.

Children's Program at St. John Neumann

6:30 p.m., St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 37, Sunbury. Children's Christmas program featuring students from kindergarten to fifth grade. **740-965-1358**

'Messiah' at Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes

7 p.m., Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 1033 W. 5th St., Marysville. Performance of Handel's "Messiah," featuring local chorus and solo volunteers and central Ohio string ensemble. **937-644-6020**

23, SUNDAY

Exposition at Our Lady of Mount Carmel

9:30 to 10:30 a.m., Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, 5133 Walnut Road S.E., Buckeye Lake. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every Sunday during Advent.

Prayer Group Meeting at Christ the King

5 to 7 p.m., Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus (enter at daily Mass entrance). Weekly parish prayer group meets. for praise, worship, ministry, and teaching. **614-886-8266**

Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter

7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish. **706-761-4054**

Solemn Vespers at Columbus St. Patrick

7 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Sung Advent solemn Evening Vespers. **614-224-9522**

24, MONDAY

Midnight Mass with Bishop at Cathedral

11 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Seasonal music with the Cathedral Choir and Brass, followed by midnight Mass celebrated by Bishop Frederick Campbell. **614-241-2526**

27, THURSDAY

Cenacle at Holy Name

6 p.m., Holy Name Church, 154 E. Patterson Ave., Columbus. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, with prayers in the Cenacle format of the Marian Movement of Priests.

Eucharistic Holy Hour at Sacred Heart

7 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 893 Hamlet St., Columbus. Eucharistic Holy Hour with the intention of deepened holiness and an increase in the virtue of fortitude for the Holy Father, bishops, and priests, concluding with Benediction, social period and refreshments. **614-294-7702**

28, FRIDAY

Holy Hour at St. Matthew

7 p.m., St. Matthew Church, 807 Havens Corners Road, Gahanna. Monthly Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and prayers for reparation, purification and sanctification of the universal Church. **614-471-0212**

29, SATURDAY

Life and Mercy Mass in Plain City

9 a.m. Mass, St. Joseph Church, 140 West Ave., Plain City. Saturday Life and Mercy Mass, followed by rosary and confession.

30, SUNDAY

Praise Mass at Church of Our Lady

11 a.m., Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. Praise Mass with upbeat contemporary music. **614-861-1242**

Prayer Group Meeting at Christ the King

5 to 7 p.m., Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus (enter at daily Mass entrance). Weekly parish prayer group meets. for praise, worship, ministry, and teaching. **614-886-8266**

Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter

7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish. **706-761-4054**

31, MONDAY

Praise and Thanksgiving Mass at St. Therese's

7 p.m., St. Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus. Praise and thanksgiving Mass sponsored by Columbus Catholic Renewal, celebrated by Father Jim Coleman, preceded by rosary and praise and worship songs at 6, with music by the Daughters of Songs. Teams will be available for individual prayer and the Sacrament of Reconciliation also will be available at this time. Fellowship will follow the Mass. Bring a dish to share. Participants will be home before 9 p.m. **614-980-3021**

JANUARY

2, WEDNESDAY

Marian Devotion at St. Elizabeth

7 p.m., St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. Marian devotion with Scriptural rosary, followed by Mass and monthly novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, with Father Ramon Owerla, C.F.C.

3, THURSDAY

Cenacle at Holy Name

6 p.m., Holy Name Church, 154 E. Patterson Ave., Columbus. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, with prayers in the Cenacle format of the Marian Movement of Priests.

Eucharistic Holy Hour at Sacred Heart

7 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 893 Hamlet St.,

Columbus. Eucharistic Holy Hour with the intention of deepened holiness and an increase in the virtue of fortitude for the Holy Father, bishops, and priests, concluding with Benediction, social period and refreshments. **614-294-7702**

4, FRIDAY

St. Cecilia Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

St. Cecilia Church, 434 Norton Road, Columbus. Begins after 8:15 a.m. Mass; continues to 5 p.m. Saturday.

Eucharistic Adoration at Columbus St. Peter

9 a.m. to 8 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. First Friday Eucharistic adoration in day chapel.

First Friday Masses at Holy Family

9 a.m., 12:15 and 7 p.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. First Friday Masses in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. **614-221-4323**

Monthly Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. Begins after 9 a.m. Mass; continues through 6 p.m. Holy Hour.

Eucharistic Vigil at Holy Cross

Holy Cross Church, 205 S. 5th St., Columbus. 7:30 p.m. Mass, followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with various prayers, ending with Benediction around 11.

All-Night Exposition at Our Lady of Victory

Our Lady of Victory Church, 1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 8 p.m. until Mass at 8 a.m. Saturday.

5, SATURDAY

Fatima Devotions at Columbus St. Patrick

7 a.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Mass, followed by devotions to Our Lady of Fatima, preceded by confessions at 6:30. **614-240-5910**

First Saturday Devotion at St. Joan of Arc

8:30 a.m., St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Road, Powell. Mass, followed by rosary in reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, concluding with Fatima prayers.

Mary's Little Children Prayer Group

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. 8:30 a.m., confessions, 9 a.m., Mass, followed by Fatima prayers and Rosary (Shepherds of Christ format); 10 a.m., meeting. **614-861-4888**

Life and Mercy Mass in Plain City

9 a.m. Mass, St. Joseph Church, 140 West Ave., Plain City. Saturday Life and Mercy Mass, followed by rosary and confession.

First Saturday Mass at Holy Family

9 a.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. First Saturday Mass for world peace and in reparation for blasphemies against the Virgin Mary. **614-221-4323, extension 329**

Lay Missionaries of Charity Day of Prayer

9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 893 Hamlet St., Columbus. Monthly day of prayer for Columbus chapter of Lay Missionaries of Charity. **614-294-7702**

Centering Prayer Group Meeting

10:30 a.m. to noon, Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. Centering prayer group meeting, beginning with silent prayer, followed by Contemplative Outreach DVD and discussion. **614-512-3731**

Filipino Mass at St. Elizabeth

7:30 p.m., St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. Mass in the Tagalog language for members of the Filipino Catholic community.

6, SUNDAY

St. Christopher Adult Religious Education

10 to 11:20 a.m., Cafeteria, Trinity Catholic School, 1440 Grandview Ave., Columbus. Family Epiphany Day and Kings Party, with children's crafts, an Epiphany play, Christmas carol singing, prayers for house blessings, and sweets.

Pete McClernon Concert at Trinity

4:30 p.m., Cafeteria, Trinity Catholic School, 1440 Grandview Ave., Columbus. Concert with Pete McClernon, retired music director for several area parishes, recalling his career of more than 40 years of music ministry.

Prayer Group Meeting at Christ the King

5 to 7 p.m., Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus (enter at daily Mass entrance). Weekly parish prayer group meets. for praise, worship, ministry, and teaching. **614-886-8266**

Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter

7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish. **706-761-4054**

Compline at Cathedral

9 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Chanting of Compline, the Catholic Church's official night prayer. **614-241-2526**

7, MONDAY

Eucharistic Adoration at Our Lady of Victory

7 to 8 a.m., Our Lady of Victory Church, 1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus. First Monday Eucharistic Adoration, beginning with Morning Prayer, concluding with Mass.

Marian Prayer Group at Holy Spirit

7 p.m., Day chapel, Holy Spirit Church, 4383 E. Broad St., Columbus. Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle prayer group for Catholic family life. **614-235-7435**

8, TUESDAY

Our Lady of Good Success Study Group

11 a.m., Sacred Heart Church, 893 Hamlet St., Columbus (date change for this month). Monthly meeting of Our Lady of Good Success study group. Eucharistic Holy Hour in church, followed by catechesis study and discussion. **614-294-7702**

Calix Society Meeting

6 p.m., Panera restaurant, 4519 N. High St., Columbus. Monthly meeting of the Calix Society, an association of Catholic alcoholics. Preceded by 5:30 p.m. Mass at Our Lady of Peace Church, across street from meeting site.

Holy Hour at Columbus St. Francis of Assisi

St. Francis of Assisi Church, 386 Buttles Ave., Columbus. Monthly Holy Hour following 6 p.m. Mass. **614-299-5781**

Rosary for Life at St. Joan of Arc

Following 6:15 p.m. Mass, St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Road, Powell. Recital of Rosary for Life, sponsored by church's respect life committee.

EnCourage Ministry Monthly Meeting

6:30 p.m., EnCourage, an approved diocesan ministry for families and friends of persons who experience same-sex attraction. EnCourage respects the dignity of every person, promotes the truth of God's plan for each of us, and focuses on sharing our love. Confidentiality is maintained. Call for site. **614-296-7404**

Abortion Recovery Network Group

7 p.m., Pregnancy Decision Health Center, 665 E. Dublin-Granville Road, Columbus. Abortion recovery network group meeting for anyone interested in recovering from abortion or who has been through a recovery program, and wants to stay connected. **614-721-2100**

Informational Meeting on Pilgrimage

7 p.m., St. Joseph Church, 134 W. Mound St., Circleville. Informational meeting with Father Ted Machnik, St. Joseph pastor, on pilgrimage he plans to lead in August to shrines in New York state and the Canadian province of Quebec. **614-474-1921**

9, WEDNESDAY

Turning Leaves and Tea Leaves

2 to 3:30 p.m., Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus. Turning Leaves and Tea Leaves book club with Dominican Sisters Marialein Anzenberger and Colleen Gallagher. **614-416-1910**

V Encuentro: A Commitment to Strengthening Leadership in the Hispanic/Latino Community

By Pam Harris and Alma Ciriello
Diocesan Catholic Ethnic Ministries

The V Encuentro, a national gathering of 3,000 leaders of Hispanic ministry who met in September in Grapevine, Texas, brought with it a renewed spirit of evangelization and zeal for missionary discipleship. The hope that drew forth from the gathering was of solidarity, strength and commitment. The focus of the event was clear: The dignity of one another and mutual respect of our differences. Those who attended were inspired by the support of the bishops, priests and religious in attendance for building a more welcoming church through leadership development, formation and inculturation. They were encouraged to accompany one another during the process of creating a new pastoral plan that reaches the needs of the community.

One specific leadership development initiative that came out of the gathering involves the urgent need to invest in Hispanic/Latino emerging leaders at all levels of the church. This investment will prepare and equip us to go out to the peripheries and min-

ister to our brothers and sisters. The Church recognizes that proper instruction is vital, along with prayer and formation, for laity to be successful in participating in parish life and community. Every person is invited to share his or her gifts given to us by Christ, who said, "I am with you always" (Matthew 28:20) in whatever their vocation may be.

Christian leadership is a consistent encounter with Christ and is a personal witness to the mission we are called to fulfill. "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19). The Church is missionary and its universal call to evangelize falls on all the baptized. For it is by our baptism that we are disciples of Christ, and by extension, we are to go forth and proclaim the Gospel. We boldly take on this mission with all humility and the skills necessary to authentically share the Good News.

This message of solidarity, generosity and mission invites us to share our stories, our experiences and our culture. These living experiences provide opportunities to be intentional in our ministry and to be attentive to the needs of

others. The clergy and laity are called to learn more about the different cultures and traditions of Hispanic communities. We have a clear focus, and that is the inherent dignity of all persons and mutual respect of our differences. We are one body with many parts (1 Corinthians 12:12). Together we can "build community through ecclesial integration, not cultural assimilation."

"It has been an uphill battle working so that the Hispanic Catholic community can be accepted at our church, creating awareness and indicating that it is not asking for assimilation but inculturation, how we are going to prevail. As the bishops indicated, we need to accept the differences and working together in unity. Listening to the bishops encouraging us to continue and 'to move from a culture of indifference to a culture of solidarity' always looking for Christ, living a Christian life, discipleship and mission are the priorities providing me with the fuel needed to continue serving" – Marta Quinones, V Encuentro delegate, Diocese of Columbus.

Missionary discipleship is an invitation to have an encounter with Christ, engage in the life of the parish and community, accompany one another and go out to the peripheries, proclaiming the Gospel. It's deepening your personal relationship with Christ and being intentional in your ministry. The V Encuentro preliminary summary of recommendations and initiatives includes three emerging national initiatives for 2019-2020, which are:

1. Leadership development initiative for Hispanic young adults and those working with youth and young adults.
2. Parish-based leadership and human development models and materials for families, with a strong biblical and evangelizing catechetical component that con-



Members of the Diocese of Columbus delegation to the V Encuentro were (from left): Ana Arteaga, Maria Cuevas, Olandino de La Cruz (all of Columbus Christ the King Church), Maria Phillips (seated, of Columbus St. Thomas the Apostle Church), Marta Quinones (Columbus St. Peter Church) and Father David Schalk (pastor, Christ the King). (Photo courtesy Catholic Ethnic Ministries)

nects linguistically and culturally to the experience of the Hispanic/Latino community.

3. Pastoral guidelines and best practices for parish and diocesan ministry among Hispanics/Latinos.

The diocesan Encuentro delegation team will meet before the regional Post-V Encuentro meeting scheduled for the spring of 2019. Diocesan meetings will occur in the summer, followed by parish meetings in the fall. We look forward to working with the faithful of the Diocese of Columbus to respond to the goals of V Encuentro and support the ongoing formation and leadership development of Hispanic/Latino Catholics.

The first Encuentro (gathering) in the United States occurred in 1972 as a result of a growing Catholic Hispanic population wanting to express its necessities, aspirations and contributions in this country. The second Encuentro in 1977 identified Hispanics as a community united in faith, history, culture and language. The third Encuentro in 1985 allowed Hispanics to raise their voice, asking for a response to the Hispanic presence as a community in the church. The Fourth Encuentro was known as "Encuentro 2000," since it took place in that year. This was an experience of Encuentro with other races and cultures that are part of the church in the United States.

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V Encuentro: Un Compromiso para Fortalecer el Liderazgo en la Comunidad Hispana/Latina

By Pam Harris and Alma Ciriello
Diocesan Catholic Ethnic Ministries

mailing list, please visit our website, www.columbuscatholic.org/cem, or text “CEM” to 22828.

El V Encuentro, que tuvo lugar en septiembre del 2018, trajo un espíritu renovado de evangelización y celo por el discipulado misionero. La esperanza que surgió de la asamblea fue de solidaridad, fuerza y compromiso. El enfoque del evento fue claro, la dignidad de cada uno y el respeto mutuo de nuestras diferencias. Las personas que acudieron fueron inspiradas por el apoyo de los obispos, sacerdotes y religiosas, para construir una iglesia más acogedora a través del desarrollo de liderazgo, formación e inculturación. Ellos fueron motivados a acompañarse mutuamente durante el proceso de crear un nuevo plan pastoral que alcance las necesidades de la comunidad.

Una iniciativa específica al desarrollo de liderazgo que resultó de la asamblea es la necesidad urgente de invertir en líderes emergentes hispanos/latinos en todos los niveles de la iglesia. Esta inversión nos prepara y equipa para salir a las periferias y dar ministerio a nuestros hermanos y hermanas. La Iglesia reconoce que la instrucción apropiada es vital al igual que la oración y formación, para que los laicos tengan éxito participando en la vida parroquial y comunitaria. Cada persona es invitada a compartir los dones que nos han sido dados por Cristo, quien dijo, “Yo estoy con ust-

edes todos los días” (Mateo 28:20) en cualquiera que sea su vocación.

El liderazgo cristiano es un encuentro consistente con Cristo y es un testigo personal de la misión que hemos sido llamados a cumplir, “Vayan pues, y hagan que todos los pueblos sean mis discípulos” (Mateo 28:19). La Iglesia es misionera y su llamado universal a la evangelización cae sobre todos los bautizados. Porque es por nuestro bautismo que somos discípulos de Cristo y por extensión hemos de ir al frente y proclamar el Evangelio. Valientemente tomamos esta misión con toda la humildad y habilidades necesarias para compartir auténticamente la Buena Noticia.

Este mensaje de solidaridad, generosidad y misión nos invita a compartir nuestras historias, nuestras experiencias y nuestra cultura. Estas experiencias de vida proveen oportunidades para ser intencionales en nuestro ministerio y ser atentos a las necesidades de los demás. El clero y los laicos somos llamados a aprender más sobre las diferentes culturas y tradiciones de las comunidades hispanas. Tenemos un enfoque claro y ese es la inherente dignidad de todas las personas y el respeto mutuo por nuestras diferencias. Somos un cuerpo, muchas partes (1 Corintios 12:12). Juntos podemos, “construir comunidades a través de la integración eclesial, no asimilación cultural”.

“Ha sido una batalla cuesta arriba trabajar para que la comunidad hispana católica sea aceptada en nues-

tra iglesia, creando consciencia e indicando que no es pidiendo asimilación sino inculturación como vamos a prevalecer. Como los Obispos lo indicaron, necesitamos aceptar las diferencias y trabajar juntos en unidad. Escuchando a los obispos animándonos a continuar y ‘movernos de una cultura de indiferencia a una cultura de solidaridad’ siempre buscando a Cristo, viviendo una vida Cristiana, el discipulado y la misión son las prioridades que me proporcionaron la energía que necesito para continuar sirviendo” – Marta Quinones. Delegada del V Encuentro, Diocese of Columbus.

El discipulado misionero es una invitación a tener un encuentro con Cristo, involucrarse en la vida de la parroquia y comunidad, acompañamiento mutuo y salir a las periferias, proclamando el Evangelio. Es profundizar la relación personal con Cristo y ser intencional en el ministerio. El resumen preliminar de recomendaciones e iniciativas del V Encuentro incluye las iniciativas nacionales emergentes del 2019-2020, que son:

1. Iniciativa de desarrollo de liderazgo para jóvenes adultos hispanos y aquellos que trabajan con los jóvenes y jóvenes adultos.
2. Modelos de liderazgo basados en la parroquia y desarrollo humano y materiales para las familias con un fuerte componente catequético bíblico y evangelizador que conecte lingüísticamente y culturalmente la experiencia de la comunidad hispana/latina.

3. Orientaciones pastorales y mejores prácticas para parroquias y ministros diocesanos entre los hispanos/latinos.

El equipo de la delegación diocesana del V Encuentro se reunirá antes del Post-V Encuentro regional programado para la primavera del 2019. Los Post-Encuentros diocesanos ocurrirán en el verano seguidos de Post-Encuentros parroquiales en el invierno. Esperamos trabajar con los fieles de la Diócesis de Columbus para responder a las metas del V Encuentro y apoyar la formación continua y desarrollo de liderazgo de los católicos hispanos/latinos.

El primer Encuentro en los Estados Unidos fue en 1972, como resultado de una población hispana católica creciente queriendo expresar sus necesidades, aspiraciones y contribuciones en este país. El segundo Encuentro en 1977 identificó a los hispanos como una comunidad unida en la fe, historia, cultura e idioma. El tercer Encuentro en 1985 permitió a los hispanos alzar su voz pidiendo una respuesta a la presencia hispana como una comunidad en la iglesia. El cuarto Encuentro fue llamado “Encuentro 2000” porque tuvo lugar en ese año. Este fue una experiencia de Encuentro con otras razas y culturas que conforman la iglesia en los Estados Unidos.

Si le gustaría registrarse en nuestra lista de correos por favor visite nuestra página web, www.columbuscatholic.org/cem o envíe un texto “CEM” a 22828.

Las Posadas: A Mexican tradition

By Alma Ciriello
Associate Director, Diocesan Catholic Ethnic Ministries

Oh, Christmas season! My favorite time of the year. One of the season’s Hispanic traditions which I enjoy most is *Las Posadas*, celebrated during Advent from Dec. 16 to 24.

Posada is a Spanish word meaning “inn,” and *Las Posadas* is a novena that reflects the difficult journey of Mary and Joseph from Nazareth to Bethlehem, where they went to register for the Roman census and found all the inns were full.

Las Posadas enacts Mary and Joseph’s search for a place to stay in Bethlehem. Mary is about to deliver her baby, and she and Joseph knock on several doors, asking for a shelter where they can rest because there is no room in the inns. After several attempts, they find a space in a stable, and it is there where Jesus is born.

In the Mexican tradition of *Las Posadas*, the pilgrimage of the holy couple is accompanied by a group of people who sing the verses of a song and ask for a place to stay. Occupants of the

houses where the pilgrims knock respond, also in song, that there is no place to stay and that Mary and Joseph should keep walking away.

People in the designated house hosting the *Posadas* celebration open the door so the holy couple and the crowd can come in. Everyone sings with joy, then prays a rosary. After that, they celebrate with a party, food and *piñata*.

The traditional *piñata* for *Las Posadas* has the form of a bright, colorful star with sev-

en peaks. Each peak represents a capital sin. The bright colors of the *piñata* represent temptation. Having one’s eyes covered in an attempt to break the *piñata* means the person is acting with trust and faith. Breaking the *piñata* with a stick means sin is overcome. Fruit and candies come out of the broken *piñata*, and these represent the gifts given to us by Our Lord for overcoming sin.

Advent is a season of hope and reflection that invites us to renew ourselves and the joy of receiving Our Lord with our family and community.

Merry Christmas!



Father Rimelspach to lead pilgrimage

Father Jeff Rimelspach, pastor of Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona Church, will lead a pilgrimage to southern Italy and Sicily from Monday, Sept. 16 to Friday, Sept. 27.

More details about the trip and its cost will be available at an informational meeting on Thursday, Jan. 10 at Kulp Hall of Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona Church, 1600 N. Hague Ave.

Tour organizers have made 28 airline reservations for the pilgrimage.

Stops will include Rome, Manoppello, Lanciana, Mozzagrogna, Monte Sant' Angelo, San Giovanni Rotondo, Pompeii and Naples in Italy; the island of Capri; and Catania, Mount Etna, Taormina, Piazza Armerina, Agrigento, Marsala, Erice, Palermo and Monreale in Sicily. Details concerning dates and times for those stops are being worked out.

Monte Sant' Angelo is the location of the Shrine of St. Michael the Archangel, where, according to legend, St. Michael appeared at various times. San Giovanni Rotondo is the

second most visited Catholic shrine in the world because of its association with St. Padre Pio. He lived at the monastery there from 1916 until his death in 1968, and he is buried there.

Pompeii is where Mount Vesuvius erupted in 79 AD. There is now a shrine to Our Lady of the Rosary near the site of the continuing excavation work in the ancient city.

Other highlights will include stops at the Church of St. Stefano on Capri; the Basilica of St. Agatha in Catania; the 2,300-year-old Greek and Roman theater in Taormina; the fourth-century Villa del Casale in Piazza Armerina, which contains the world's largest collection of Roman mosaics; the Norman Palace in Palermo, the oldest royal residence in Europe; the Shrine of St. Rosalia in Palermo; and the Norman Cathedral in Monreale.

There also will be ample time for shopping and individual adventuring at several of the stops.

For more information, call Father Rimelspach at (614) 279-1690.



Merry Christmas from ODU



Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. — Isaiah 7:14

The Ohio Dominican University family sends you and your loved ones best wishes for a blessed Christmas and a 2019 filled with wonder! We invite you to visit our campus during this joyous season.

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