



DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

CATHOLIC TIMES

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EVERY LIFE

cherished • chosen • sent

Respect Life Month
October 2018

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**OCTOBER IS THE U.S. BISHOPS' ANNUAL
RESPECT LIFE MONTH OBSERVANCE**

Editor's reflections by Doug Bean

Defend and respect life

October is one of the most spiritually significant periods of the year because it's not only the month of the rosary, but it's also Respect Life month.

Millions of people will storm heaven by praying the rosary with a multitude of intentions while asking the Blessed Virgin Mary to intercede to her beloved son Jesus for all human life.

If your parish does not offer any public rosary processions or recitations this Sunday – and even if it does – there's another way to join with others in praying to Our Lady.

Rosary Coast to Coast is an organized effort under the mantle of Our Lady of Guadalupe to pray for the Church and for the United States.

In 2017, millions of Catholics rallied at the borders of Poland in an overwhelming display of devotion, reciting the rosary in prayer and reparation for their nation. Rosary Coast to Coast then spread to Ireland and Great Britain, and now the United States.

At 4 p.m. Eastern Time Sunday, Oct. 7, Catholics will connect spiritually in hundreds of locations throughout the nation to pray the rosary. Starting earlier in the day will be the National Rosary Rally in Washington, which will be live-streamed at www.rosarycoasttocoast.com. The national event will include a Mass, speakers and recitation of all 40 mysteries of the rosary.

Among the parishes in the Diocese of Columbus participating in Rosary Coast to Coast, according to its website, are Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, Columbus St. Patrick, Reynoldsburg St. Pius X, London St. Patrick, Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Logan St. John, Zaleski St. Sylvester, Chillicothe St. Peter, Waverly St. Mary and Delaware St. Mary.

One of the rosary's intentions will be

for the protection of life from conception through natural death.

So many people devote their time, resources and prayers to preserving life at all stages and in all situations. In this week's annual Respect Life issue, the *Catholic Times* highlights a few of the individual and organizations making a huge difference.

Everyone should do their part to build up the culture of life. Your contribution can be as simple as praying every day for the unborn and for the end of abortion throughout the world.

Of course, many other steps can be taken to defend the innocent among us. Some of the options include volunteering at a crisis pregnancy center or shelter; donating to an organization that assists women and their born and unborn babies; supporting pro-life candidates for political office in November; praying at an abortion center; or attending Respect Life prayer vigils at a parish.

Catholics laity, priests, religious sisters and brothers need to stand together. They should not shy away from defending the pro-life position in public.

There seems to be a reluctance by some religious to speak about abortion, maybe out of fear that they'll offend someone. But it is everyone's duty to defend the most fundamental right in our society.

There are encouraging signs that America will become a pro-life nation again. That its civil laws won't contradict natural law. That every person – the unborn, marginalized, disabled, disadvantaged, and elderly – will be loved and protected.

Let's redouble our efforts to do whatever it takes to make it happen.



Diocese to make records of claims made against clergy available

As set forth in the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, the Diocese of Columbus has procedures in place specifically designed to address allegations of sexual abuse of minors by priests, with zero tolerance for any form of child abuse.

All credible claims of child sexual abuse are immediately reported to law enforcement and/or children service agencies, and those active clergy against whom such claims have been made are immediately removed from ministry and church property pending a completion of the investigation.

As in the past, the Diocese of Columbus will fully cooperate with civil authorities in any future inquiry of abuse allegations.

In addition, the Diocese of Columbus intends to make public informa-

tion with respect to clergy, whether living or deceased, against whom such claims have been made, and hopes to make this information public within the next few months.

The Diocese of Columbus understands that this is an important step to restore the confidence of our faithful in their Church and its clergy.

The Diocese of Columbus encourages anyone who may have experienced sexual abuse by clergy or others associated with the Church to immediately contact law enforcement and the diocesan victims assistance coordinator at (614) 224-2251, (1-866) 448-0217, or helpisavailable@columbuscatholic.org.

Forms for reporting abuse are available in parish and school offices and can be accessed from the diocesan website (www.columbuscatholic.org).

Marian Conference will be held at Jubilee Museum

This year's Columbus Marian Conference and Day of Recollection will take place on the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima, Saturday, Oct. 13, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and will be at the Jubilee Museum, 57 S. Grubb St.

The conference will begin with a sung Latin High Mass, followed by several talks, lunch, and an opportunity to tour the museum, which houses the nation's largest collection of diversified Catholic artwork.

The theme for this year's conference is "Our Lady of Fatima and the Church's Ultimate Trial."

Reflections will be given by Father Ladis Cizik, former national director of Our Lady's Blue Army,

the World Apostolate of Fatima. There is no cost to attend, but free-will offerings to help offset costs will be accepted. Seating is limited, so those interested in attending are asked to RSVP no later than Monday, Oct. 8.

Now in its eighth year, the Marian Conference is a lay-organized event that works to inspire greater love and devotion to Mary and, in so doing, draw people closer to Jesus Christ and his Church.

This year, the talks will look at the many ways the Church leads people to a fruitful and profound devotion to Our Lady, thus drawing them closer to her Son, Jesus Christ.



Front Page photo:

Respect Life Month

The 2018 theme for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' annual Respect Life month is that every person is cherished, chosen and sent.

Art courtesy of USCCB

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Suicide seminar participants hear message of hope

By Tim Puet, *Catholic Times Reporter*

During much of Russ Crabtree's talk at the Pontifical College Josephinum last week, the screen behind him displayed one word in large letters – "HOPE."

Crabtree has trained people in suicide awareness for the past two decades and has endured a personal crisis that nearly led him to take his own life, even as he was educating others on how to prevent others from killing themselves.

"My own story and those of many others who have faced suicidal desperation have taught me that there is hope that we can prevent suicide in our communities," he said. "If you're going to solve the problem, the saying is true that 'it takes a village.' It takes plenty of stakeholders – people willing to step out. Training is a big part of that."

He concluded his talk to more than 180 people attending a diocesan seminar on suicide prevention and intervention at the Josephinum's Jessing Center on Wednesday, Sept. 26 by saying, "We can make a difference. Instead of 'passing the peace (as at the sign of peace at Mass),' let's pass the hope." He then said three times, "We would not be the same without you," and asked people to turn to those seated next to them and say, "Hope be with you."

Crabtree, who now lives in North Carolina, told the audience that his experience with suicide prevention began in 1997 when three young people killed themselves within seven months in Grandview Heights, where he was pastor of Boulevard Presbyterian Church. He and a friend, psychologist Linda Karlovec, responded by forming a team of school, business, political, medical and clergy representatives to address the situation.

"We developed a five-point plan," he said. "First, we got ourselves educated and trained. That gave us a sense of power. Next, we formed focus groups so we could get our ears to the ground, find out what was going on in the community, and see what the root issues were which were causing the suicides.

"We then started to educate the community through the local weekly newspaper and other media. The fourth point was working with the school administration to put crisis planning in place. Finally, we became

advocates on behalf of the students," Crabtree said. He said no more suicides occurred after the community started addressing the problem, and that pattern continued for 15 years.

His experience in Grandview Heights led him to leave his pastorate and become involved in three other ventures. Two of them dealt with church consulting and suicide prevention. The third is the *Montana de Luz* project in Honduras for abandoned HIV children, which has been supported by individuals and parish organizations in the Diocese of Columbus over the years.

By November 2003, the stress of his vocational changes, combined with a marital separation and loss of contact



Russ Crabtree speaks at the diocesan suicide prevention seminar at the Josephinum.

with his children, had led him to a situation in which everything he owned was in his car. A short time later, the car was totaled, a check bounced, and he found his credit score was too low for him to obtain credit. He eventually moved into the home of a friend's parents and stayed there for three years.

"One day, this suicide prevention trainer was at a gun counter to buy a gun, with the intention of killing myself. Instead, I went to the Ohio State University Hospital," Crabtree said.

He said that on another occasion, he went to the home of his parents to clean gutters and saw a gun which had been in the same place there for years. "The gun was right there," he said. "I turned off my cell phone and closed my eyes. Then this face appeared and said, 'Just breathe, Russ. Don't leave me,'" and kept repeating the phrase." He said that kept him from picking up the gun and using it.

Crabtree said that two weeks later, his wife told him she believed an angel had come to him at that instant to save his life. "I don't understand why I was saved, but I was," he said. "I tell

you all this to illustrate that normal people can go through things they'd never think about" and can consider suicide as a result.

Crabtree described himself as a "second-day" person. "I have gone through the dark night of suicidal thinking and emerged into the light of a second day," he said. He estimated that 20 percent of his audience consisted of "second-day" people – those who either had thought of suicide themselves or knew of someone who had done so, but had decided not to act on those thoughts.

"I made it through because the skills I had learned in preventing others from suicide helped me," he said. "I also had a great therapist. I retrained my life – or actually, God was retraining me. He took me apart so he could reinvent me from top to bottom. Friends also had a great impact on me. Their strong support was the difference between life and death. One of those friends was Mark Huddy," diocesan moderator for social concerns and Catholic Charities, Crabtree said.

"Ultimately, I'm here because of God," he said, following that by telling the story of the



Father Leo Connolly, pastor, Columbus St. Cecilia Church. Photos/Social Concerns Office

encounter at his parents' house. Crabtree in 2015 began a program titled Soul Shop, which helps people minister to those affected by suicidal desperation. Thousands of laypersons and hundreds of clergy have taken part in it. Crabtree said he has heard many of stories of how Soul Shop has saved lives.

"Even if we prevent all suicides, our work as the people of God won't end," he said. "As long as people are thinking of suicide, as long as there is a stigma attached to this which prevents people from seeking assistance when these thoughts come to them, they need our help and support."

Other speakers for the daylong event included Dr. Darcy Granell, director of The Ohio State University's suicide prevention program; Father Leo Connolly, pastor of Columbus St. Cecilia Church; Deacon Phil Paulucci of Columbus St. Peter Church; Jolene DeFiore-Hyrmer of the Ohio Department of Health; Laura Lewis, assistant director of Ohio State's suicide prevention program; Lewis' husband, Michael, a licensed professional clinical counselor (LPCC) and member of the Capital University faculty; and Rachelle Martin, executive director of the Franklin County chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

Granello said a brother-in-law killed himself in 1999 "and it was like a nuclear bomb" in her family. "Nineteen years later, the family still sets a place at the Thanksgiving table for him. This is why I'm talking to you today," she said.

About 45,000 Americans – about 123 per day – die each year from suicide, Granello said. About 5,100 of them are between ages 15 and 24, making it the second-leading cause of death each year for high school students. She said estimates are that a million people kill themselves worldwide each year. In addition, every day in the United States, 5,000 seventh- to 12th-graders attempt suicide. She said federal statistics indicate that for everyone age 15 to 54 who commits suicide, there are an additional 45 people who attempt it and 250 seriously considering it.

Granello said the number of suicides in the United States each year probably is underreported by 50 percent because of the stigma associated with suicide. "Seventy-five percent of students in the United States say they wouldn't tell an adult if they knew a friend was suicidal," she said. "That's what you can change. Ninety percent of teens who commit suicide demonstrate clear warning signs, 80

Have Faith in Education

By Adam Dufault

OCS serves schools and plans for future



Not too long ago, my three-year-old daughter's day care class learned about the jobs that people do in our communities. She then asked me to tell her about my job. Trying to explain the job of a school superintendent is no easy task. Should I start by describing strategic planning? Financial oversight? Policy management? This would have been much easier if I were still an elementary school principal or back in a sixth-grade classroom. At the end of my pondering, I finally told her that "Daddy helps schools."

When you come right down to it, helping schools is exactly what my office, the Office of Catholic Schools (OCS), does every day. The mission of our office is to "serve the Catholic community in the shared ministry of education, through mission, academic excellence, leadership, governance, financial viability, and advocacy, to form disciples who live fully the message of Jesus Christ." At the core of this mission is a commitment to servant leadership, drawing inspiration from Jesus' words in the Gospel of Mark: "For the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many."

The Catholic schools of the Diocese of Columbus exist as a partnership between the parishes, schools and local communities. Our 42 elementary schools and 11 high schools serve families in the Columbus metropolitan area, and also extend as far north as New Philadelphia and as far south as Portsmouth, making a Catholic education available to children in 15 counties.

The seven staff members of the Office of Catholic Schools work hard to provide outstanding support and service to each of the schools, while building *esprit de corps* among our school leaders. Our assistant superintendents – one for high schools and the other for elementary schools – consult daily with school principals on school matters of all kinds. The associate directors in our office focus on supporting school finances, coordinating state scholarship programs, supporting students in special populations, building the curriculum and assessment programs of the diocese, and many, many other responsibilities.

Perhaps the most important project facing OCS in the near term is the creation of a strategic vision of the future for our Catholic schools. We will be working in collaboration with the bishop, pastors, principals, teachers, parents and students to chart a course forward, with the goal of keeping our schools vibrant for years to come. This plan will be taking shape during the next several months. It will start with a deep dive into our school data and an attempt to chart trends. It then will progress into a plan focusing on Catholic identity, academic excellence and financial management. New ideas and new strategies are essential.

In some ways, we already have begun to think differently. For example, the operation of the two schools in Zanesville was modified this summer. Bishop Fenwick Elementary School and Bishop Rosecrans High School, which share a parking lot on a large campus across from St. Nicholas Church, are now under the joint direction of executive director Kelly Sagan. Susan Swackhammer serves as the elementary school director and Chelsea Tolliver as the high school director. By better combining resources and thinking more as a unified preschool through 12th-grade system, the Catholic schools of Zanesville hope to serve the community through a shared identity and common strategic plan.

Our schools are places of love, where children can learn in the presence of Jesus Christ throughout their day as they grow in their faith, knowledge and service to God. Our schools serve a vital role in our nation, and I firmly believe they soon will be more needed than ever. The goal of our long range planning is to keep our schools growing for decades to come. The Office of Catholic Schools and I are looking forward to sharing our progress.

Adam J. Dufault is diocesan episcopal moderator for education and superintendent of Catholic schools.

SUICIDE, continued from Page 3

percent tell someone, and the most common response is silence. Why would I say I want to kill myself? Because I want help.

"I believe we have people so afraid of saying the wrong thing that they say nothing," Granello said. "If you speak out with compassion and care, it's better than doing nothing. We can't save everybody, but if we do nothing, we don't have a chance.

"We have to change the culture and create a culture of caring," she said. After displaying several messages encouraging suicide which were posted on a popular social media site, she said, "This conversation is happening, but it's happening without us. We have to insert hope into this conversation. We have to give students knowledge and information and let them know we can help, and we have to take care of ourselves, too."

Father Connolly and Deacon Paulucci both discussed how the Catholic Church's position on suicide has evolved as more discoveries have been made about how the brain works.

"The Church has always said suicide is a wrong thing, and it always will," said Deacon Paulucci, who is an LPCC and has been involved in the mental health field for 40 years. "But look at it from a sociological and a scientific perspective. It's been shown that 50 percent of people who commit suicide are clinically depressed. It goes to 75 percent when substance abuse is added to that.

"More research has been published showing that clinical depression biologically changes the physical structure of the brain. It depletes the neurotransmitters that lead to good feelings. It shrinks the hippocampus, the center for reasoning.

"Armed with this knowledge, the Church has come to understand depression as an illness, and we have to relate to it like any other illness."

Father Connolly said that because of this knowledge, the Church changed its former position against having a funeral Mass or a burial in consecrated ground for someone who commits suicide.

"The Church has an obligation to help people in the healing process," he said. "In a funeral Mass, the Church brings the healing message of the Gospel. What a shame if it did not take advantage of this."

He also talked about his longtime role as chaplain for the Franklin

County Sheriff's Department and how he frequently is called to the scene when a person kills himself or herself. He said the hardest thing in such cases is to tell a family that it can't see the body because the area has to be treated as a crime scene.

"It sounds cruel, but in the long term, it's probably better that the family not see things that could increase the stress on them," he said. Father Connolly said that in some suicide cases, the family eventually is allowed to see part of the person's body at the county coroner's office, but that decision is up to the coroner.

"I've learned over my experience with law enforcement that the primary reason leading to the conditions that most often bring about suicide is the breakdown of a relationship," he said. "What we as a church need to do is to help our young people deal with this type of failure, and failure in general.

"We do no service to young people by withholding the harsh realities of living from them. This is also true with death. Many people don't let kids experience death. It's a part of life, and it's permanent. Kids live in a world where everything is short-term. They play video games where people die and get revitalized. Many of them don't understand what it's like to experience a long-term loss."

DeFiore-Hyrmer, representing the state agency which compiles the state's health information, presented several statistics related to suicide in the state. She said the suicide rate in Ohio has increased by 37 percent in a decade, with the total of suicides statewide rising from 1,268 in 2007 to 1,774 last year. Four out of five Ohioans who commit suicide are male, but the rates for males and females are increasing, with the most dramatic increase among people age 18 to 24.

After general talks in the morning, the seminar's afternoon session included programming for adults, with Crabtree and Martin, and for students, with Michael and Laura Lewis.

The day closed with groups from parishes and schools working on formation of suicide prevention action plans for their particular situations. Those in attendance also were able to visit display tables at which representatives of various government and private groups which deal with suicide prevention were available for discussion.

Bishop Frederick Campbell's funeral homily for Father Lawrence Nolan, OCSO

"Family and friends of Father Nolan and my brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ,

"As we were preparing for this funeral and I was speaking with Bishop Griffin, it dawned on me that I first met Father Nolan in 1981 in New Melleray (Abbey, Iowa). I was a newly ordained priest, and as I had begun the practice, I did my annual retreat at New Melleray, and it was an extraordinary experience.

"And I remember – very vaguely, but I do remember – meeting him. And what an extraordinary twist of providence that now I should be celebrating his funeral here in Columbus. And I think back on those days at New Melleray, and sometimes very surprising images come to mind.

"Back then, one of the ways by which the abbey made their sustenance was by raising beef cattle, and you could hear them lowing in the fields next to it. I thought it rather strange, because the Trappists were vegetarians.

"The abbey sits on some of the richest farm land in the United States, although the monks no longer personally farm it. It is an extraordinary sight to see. There

is also in the winter a strong wind that blows across that prairie, and it whistles in the monastery buildings, and that was always a comfort.

"Now I understand that the monks help to make sustenance by making caskets, which of course touches a universal human experience. In fact, the casket in which we place the body of Father Nolan was a casket from New Melleray.

"When I think of those days and the incredible impression that the abbey makes on you, I realize that here in this place, individuals are following the command that one hears again and again in the Old Testament and the New – 'Seek the face of the Lord.'

"In seeking that face of the Lord, creating a community and an atmosphere in which God is always present to all and to all time, in every moment, the presence of God is palpable.

"And in experiencing that sense of a community, in seeking the face of the Lord and winning more and more completely that sense of the presence of God, it gave the impression – and it was a deep one – that in fact, you need not fear anything, and especially, you need not fear

death, because death is simply a transformation, a change, and an entrance to that presence which is face-to-face.

"And it is that that I think Father Nolan brought with him as he left the confines of New Melleray and came here to Columbus. You know, you may be able to take the monk out of the monastery, but you're never going to take the monastery out of the monk.

"And people who knew him, especially when he was at the Shrine of St. Therese, always told me that he would not take any appointments or calls between 8 and 10 in the morning, because that was his time to fulfill all the requirements of the monastic office and to spend the required moments in contemplation.

"And I think he understood, by seeking the face of God, that line that you just heard in our second reading, that 'What we shall be when the Kingdom comes fully, we do not understand, but we do know this: We shall be like God, for we shall see him as he is.' And in this funeral liturgy, we pray that that is indeed now the enjoyment of Father.

"That reading from the Book of Lamentations (the first reading of the Mass)

begins rather sadly, and I think it is a recognition that in our own lives there are moments of sadness, especially as we approach the very real fact of death, the sadness of leaving loved ones, the sadness of infirmity, the loss of control – and it is a sadness.

"But the reading continues by saying 'I know my portion is the Lord's; therefore I will hope in him. Good is the Lord to one who waits for him, to the soul who seeks him. It is good to hope in silence for the saving help of the Lord.' I suspect that that line could be engraved in most monastery walls – that hope in the presence of God, in the power of silent acceptance with God.

"Now this sense of the silence of the soul can be transferred from the monastery into our lives here today. St. Thomas Aquinas used to talk about it as having an interior cloister. We take what was outside of us – exterior things – and we draw it more and more deeply into our own being, so that even in the midst of a very busy world, there is that solitude, that silence, that sense of being touched

See HOMILY, Page 8

Mohun Health Care Center recognized for workplace excellence

The Mohun Health Care Center, a long-term nursing facility in Columbus founded by the Dominican Sisters of Peace, has been recognized by Leading Age Ohio with its newest award – the Award for Workplace Excellence.

LeadingAge Ohio is a nonprofit trade association that represents approximately 400 long-term care organizations and hospices, as well as those providing ancillary health care and housing services, in more than 150 Ohio communities.

The center received the award because fewer than 17 percent of its staff members leave the organization per year. This goes against a national trend. Staff turnover among nursing home employees ranges between 55 and 75 percent nationwide, at a cost of at least \$22,000 and often more per individual.

More than 1.4 million people, the vast majority of whom are senior citizens, live in the nation's more than 15,000 nursing homes. More than 1.5 million nursing professionals care for

those seniors.

The Mohun center is a 72-bed facility dedicated to the long-term care of retired religious. Its population consists mostly of retired members of the Dominican Sisters of Peace, plus a few retired priests.

"Religious sisters never really 'retire,'" said center administrator April Queener. "Sisters living at Mohun serve in a ministry of prayer and presence – in fact, we refer to this facility as a powerhouse of prayer."

"This calling to prayer and peace is the foundation of our workplace," she said. "Our nurses and aides feel this peace as they go about their duties. Our nursing staff is treated with respect by patients and by the management team, so they treat one another with respect as well."



Staff members and sisters from the Mohun Health Care Center who accepted a workplace excellence award at LeadingAge Ohio's annual conference include (from left): Venie Coleman, human resources director; April Queener, administrator; Sister Anne Keenan, OP, leadership liaison; Michelle Kiner, nursing director; Elaine Rose, unit manager; Sister Carole Hermann, OP, co-resident life director; Sister Arleen Kisiel, OP, pastoral care; and Angie Tucker, unit manager.

Photo courtesy Mohun Health Care Center

The Dominican calling to justice and fairness also contributes to the quality of the Mohun workplace. "Our employees enjoy a full range of benefits," says Venie Coleman, the center's human resources coordinator. "Health, vision and dental insurance,

a 401-k plan, financial counseling – even free life insurance coverage – all are available to our care team members."

Continuing education, both in class and online, is another benefit offered to all Mohun employees, said Mohun's nursing director, Michelle Kiner. "It's our goal to turn nurses into leaders. Study and education are part of our Dominican charism, and we are delighted to share that with our nurses."

Employees agree with Leading Age Ohio's workplace excellence designation. "I don't feel like just a worker; we are like family," says Trefera Haile, a licensed practical nurse with 18 years of service at Mohun. "At the end of the day, we're not drained," said seven-year team member Beverly Greenidge, a state-tested nurse aide (STNA). "We have a good residence," said STNA Lucia Duwon, who has worked at Mohun for six years. "We have a very good team."

Thoughts while praying the rosary



QUESTION & ANSWER Father Kenneth Doyle Catholic News Service

QI would appreciate your help with a question I've had for a long time. When I am saying the rosary, should I be thinking of the words to the Hail Mary or about the particular mystery I am then on? (Morrilton, Arkansas)

AI think it's a matter of personal choice. Whatever best helps to make these moments a time of prayer and of peace, whatever makes you more aware of the presence of God and his love, that is the way to go. I myself like to change it around.

Sometimes I fashion a mental picture of the mystery I'm on – with the resurrection, for example, I imagine the women arriving at the tomb early on Easter morning, their confusion on finding it empty and their excitement later in the day as the realization dawns that their friend Jesus is, somehow, once again alive.

Other times – particularly if I'm tired and creative thought eludes me – I think about the words of the Hail Mary: the angel Gabriel's greeting to the faith-filled girl of 14 or 15, or Elizabeth's praise of the one "blessed among women."

I don't pretend that my technique is fail-safe; often enough, my thoughts drift to the phone calls I need to make, the homily still to be written. Distractions are always the challenge, and so sometimes I pray just a decade at a time; I have a "ring rosary" with just 10 beads, and often, when I'm driving, I put it on my finger and it helps me to focus on Jesus and Mary.

QI have always thought it would be better if the church undid the rule by which we are obliged to attend Sunday Mass under pain of mortal sin. That way, I believe, more people would come to church.

I myself attend weekly, but attendance in our parish has dropped so drastically that we have cut back on the number of weekend Masses. I know people who would be active members if it were not for the rule of mandatory attendance. (Somerset, New Jersey)

AThe obligation for Catholics to attend Sunday Mass under penalty of grave sin is a precept of

the church, a specification of the Third Commandment to "Keep holy the Sabbath." It could therefore be changed by competent church authority, but I believe that is unlikely to happen.

A bit of history is helpful. In the earliest centuries of the church, there was no stated rule making Sunday Eucharist mandatory – because there didn't need to be. This was what Christians did: As a matter of course, they gathered on the first day of the week – in the beginning in homes, later on in simple church structures – in celebration of the resurrection and to be nourished by Christ's risen body. They continued to do this through years and years of persecution and at the risk of their jobs and even their lives.

It was only in the fourth century that there began to be any written rules about church attendance, and this happened first through regional church councils. Much later, when the first *Code of Canon Law* was written in 1917, that obligation was defined as a universal rule.

Pope John Paul II, in his 1998 apostolic letter *Dies Domini*, noted that at first, no written rule was necessary due to the "inner need felt so strongly by the Christians of the first centuries," and that "only later, faced with the halfheartedness or negligence of some," the church felt it necessary to make explicit the duty to attend Sunday Mass (No. 47).

To be sure, over the 52 years I have been ordained a priest, Sunday Mass attendance has fallen sharply. But it seems unlikely to me that church leaders would cede to this trend by lifting the obligation.

To your belief that more Catholics would come to Mass if the obligation were lifted, I have not seen any studies that would document this or refute it.

I would hope, though, that Catholics who do attend now are motivated not as much by a mandate but more by the good things that happen at Mass: They can be instructed by the word of God, inspired by the presence of other Catholic Christians at prayer and – most of all – strengthened by receiving the Lord in the Eucharist.

St. Catharine to host Mass of Inclusion

A Mass of Inclusion for People with Special Needs will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 4, at Columbus St. Catharine Church, 500 S. Gould Road.

In partnership with SPICE (Special People in Catholic Education), the Mass will celebrate the unique gifts of people with physical and mental disabilities, as well as their caretakers.

To encourage an inclusive, welcoming environment, there will be American Sign Language interpretation, elevator and wheelchair accessibility, low-gluten hosts for those with dietary restrictions, and ushers

available to assist. Additionally, it is hoped that lay ministry roles within the Mass can be filled by people with special needs.

If there are individuals with special needs serving your parish as an altar server, Eucharistic minister, lector, or cantor, Contact Cathryn at St. Catharine Church at (614) 231-4509 if they would be interested in ministering at the Mass of Inclusion. All priests are welcome to concelebrate the Mass. If you have other questions, contact Mary Ginn Ryan at (614) 354-6945.

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR POSITION AVAILABLE

The Catholic Diocese of Columbus is looking for a fulltime Associate Director for the Office of Catholic Ethnic Ministry. The essential job responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

1. Manage and support the basic policies and procedures of the day-to-day operations of the office. Assist with the office budget, ongoing formation for the office's staff, and oversight of administrative support assistants helping the office.
2. Oversee, under the supervision of the Director, the office's Catholic Latino Ministry efforts, including interaction and collaboration with the office's Latino Catholic consultative board.
3. Support and work with all other ministerial activities associated with and populations served by the Office, including the African-American, African, and Asian/Asian-American communities. Work with consultative bodies appointed by the Diocese to represent these broad ethnic/national groups.
4. Provide support for clergy assigned to care for specific ethnic/national communities and those communities' lay leadership. Additionally, provide support of clergy and religious vocations and ministry formation specific to these communities, as warranted.
5. Help represent the Diocese at local and national conferences, on various committees, and at public events.
6. Help solicit grants for projects in ethnic ministries, including the office's collaboration with the Office of Development and Planning to support stewardship education and formation among Catholic ethnic/national communities.

Job Related Skills: The ideal applicant must be a practicing Catholic and exhibit the ability to effectively communicate both in written format and oral presentation; ability to maintain organization, multi-task and establish priorities; exhibits initiative, responsibility and flexibility. In addition, this position requires the ability to work with others in a diverse and collaborative team environment and be proficient in MS Office software (Word, Excel) and Google Apps.

Education/Experience: A Bachelor's degree in ethnic ministry or a related field is required; a master's degree in the same is preferred. The ability to be bilingual in Spanish and English is mandatory for this position. Three to five years of experience in ethnic ministry settings is required.

Compensation, Benefits & Requirements: Compensation is commensurate with candidate's education and experience. Job offer is contingent on the successful passing of the mandatory background screening and completion of the VIRTUS "Protecting God's Children" program. Benefits are according to Diocesan policy. Send cover letter, resume, and three references by:

**Monday, October 19, 2018 to Dominic Prunte,
HR Director at dprunte@columbuscatholic.org.**



MAKING SENSE OUT OF BIOETHICS

Father Tad Pacholczyk

Opioids, pain management and addiction: balancing ethical duties

Almost two million Americans are addicted to opioids. The National Institute on Drug Abuse notes that more than 100 people die each day in the United States from opioid overdoses. This unprecedented level of abuse – which involves not only heroin, but also prescription pain relievers such as OxyContin, Percocet, morphine, codeine and fentanyl – has become a national crisis. Reportedly, about 80 percent of heroin addicts first misused prescription opioids. Yet for many patients, no pain-relieving options more effective than opioids exist. Figuring out how to use these powerful pharmacological agents in an appropriate and ethical manner is urgent and imperative.

At a minimum, a three-pronged approach is required. One prong involves working with medical professionals to limit the use and availability of these drugs by modifying prescribing practices. A second involves making patients more aware of the risks of addiction and increasing their involvement in monitoring their medications and managing decisions about their care. A third involves making effective addiction treatment and outreach programs accessible to those caught in the throes of chemical dependency.

With regard to reducing opioid availability, medical professionals in recent years have been seeking to establish guidelines for prescribing opiates that take into account the number of pills typically needed to get through a surgery or treatment. For example, recovery from more complex stomach surgeries might require 60 opioid pills, while an appendectomy or hernia might require only 15 to 20. Although prescription guidelines may be helpful, they clearly can't be fixed in stone, as individual patients will have varying pain management needs. Some nurses recall well the days when concerns about addiction could re-

sult in undermedicated patients watching the clock and writhing in pain until the time of the next dose. Unmanaged pain is a spiritual assault on the dignity of a person and plays right into the hands of assisted suicide advocates.

Careful prescribing of pain medications, whether for surgery or chronic pain, also helps to avoid overmedicating patients and rendering them lethargic or semi-comatose; in terminal situations, patients still have the right to prepare for their death while fully conscious, and they should not generally be deprived of consciousness or alertness, except to mitigate excruciating or otherwise uncontrollable pain.

In certain cases, of course, it may not matter if a person becomes addicted to pain medications. If a patient has only a few weeks of life remaining, and he or she is experiencing intractable pain such that high doses of opioids are the most effective approach, addiction during his or her final days and hours would not generally raise ethical concerns.

There are alternatives to the use of opioids that may be suitable for some patients. These include the use of less-addictive or nonaddictive drugs such as acetaminophen, ibuprofen, naproxen, or anesthetics and blockers at the pain site. Cognitive behavioral therapy, stress management and relaxation techniques can help patients learn how to modify triggers that increase pain. Specialists sometimes remind us that bringing pain down to a tolerable level should be the goal, rather than trying to eliminate it entirely, which in many cases may not even be possible. Some patients may require assistance to come to accept even a limited amount of pain.

A San Diego-based pilot program to reduce the overprescription of opioids included the novel step of notifying physicians when one of

their patients had died from an overdose. The San Diego medical examiner would send health care professionals a letter in this format: "This is a courtesy communication to inform you that your patient (name, date of birth) died on (date). Prescription drug overdose was either the primary cause or contributed to the death." In follow-up studies, physicians who received these letters were found to prescribe at significantly decreased levels, and they were also less likely to start new patients on opioids. Researchers speculated that, like everyone else, physicians tend to assess health and safety risks differently when bad outcomes spring readily to mind. At the same time, taking steps to restrict opioid availability can backfire, with devastating consequences for chronic pain patients who may now end up being refused opioid prescriptions they need and have relied on for years.

In the final analysis, the proper use of pain medications requires a balanced approach, attending to objective indications from the patient, so clinicians can offer sufficient comfort and remediation of their pain. Patients also must take responsibility for their own pain management decisions, becoming informed about and aware of the challenges and risks. When the goal is to provide the lowest dose of opioids for the shortest amount of time, in direct response to the level and severity of the pain, patients are likely to have better treatment outcomes with diminished risks of addiction.

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



Father Bill Hritsko will play several instruments at a parish concert on Oct. 14.

Father Hritsko to present parish concert

Father Bill Hritsko, pastor of Buckeye Lake Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, 5133 Walnut Road S.E., will join guest musicians for a concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 14 that will be part of the parish's 90th anniversary celebration. A reception with light refreshments will follow.

Father Hritsko is presenting the concert as an anniversary gift to the parish. He said he would play instruments including the guitar, ukulele, dulcimer, and serenity harp.

The anniversary celebration began in July with the parish picnic, followed on Aug. 10 by a Taize prayer service marking the 90th anniversary of the laying of the church's cornerstone.

After the 11 a.m. Mass on Sunday, Dec. 9, a re-blessing service will take place in the chapel where the parish's first Mass was offered. It will be followed by a family dinner.

There will be a Taize service during Lent, and a concert in May featuring all of the parish's music ministries. The year of celebration will end with the parish picnic in July.

Special relatives visit St. Andrew



Columbus St. Andrew School first-grade students hosted their “special relatives” for a day. They started the day by attending Mass together, then had a reception that included prayers, songs and appreciation. Pictured are Abbie (left) and Emmie Clapgood with their special relative, Kimberly Jones.

Photo courtesy St. Andrew School

HOMILY, continued from Page 5

by God. It is a profound sense of hope.

“The times I met Father Nolan, I was always impressed by what a gentle soul he was. In his work in retreats with many other organizations, especially the Shrine, there was that sense that he drew from his experience as a monk a great treasure of spiritual guidance and consolation, which he always was willing to offer.

“In today’s reading from the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus invites us to realize that there is a profound wisdom that is granted only to the simple – and I don’t mean the dull or the unthinking; the simple meaning, in the original sense, one who is focused and who is directed toward the presence of God – and that wisdom allows him to understand that presence of God.

“But Jesus in that passage also remarks that you have to become like a little child. Now you notice that Our Lord does not say you have to become childish, but become like a child, which I think is that sense of trust and confidence, that sense of a future stretching before us, a sense of understanding things perhaps more clearly than some adults who have been in the world too long.

“That’s why we used to speak about

wisdom coming from the lips of babes, because as you may know, children have a wonderful sense of telling you exactly what they see. It’s that confidence and trust, along with that gentleness, that we remember about Father Nolan. We also think of his infirmity, which he bore with patience.

“We remember the things that he gave us. But we also remember, as St. Paul tells us, that those who die in Christ will live with him forever. And so, my friends, in that profound belief, we have brought the body of Father Nolan here to an altar, to an altar like one at which he celebrated Mass, in which he offered to the people the richness of sacred Scripture and the very body and blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

“We bring him here not only to recognize his priestly life, but also to recognize that we are here to assist him on that final journey of ours to take. That journey is sustained by our participation in this Eucharist, for we celebrate the dying and the rising of Jesus Christ among us, and on closer association with that, we too will be able to join with Christ in seeing God as he is and live forever.

“*May the Good Lord shine eternal and perpetual light upon Lawrence, and may his soul rest in peace. Amen.*”

St. Anthony students build towers



Columbus St. Anthony School first-graders read the book “The Man Who Walked Between the Towers” by Mordicai Gerstein, which tells of French aerialist Philippe Petit’s tightrope walk between the two World Trade Center towers in 1974. The students worked in teams to build their own twin towers out of clear cups. Shown with one of the towers are (from left) Carlos Luna, Lila Hatem, Desno Daly, John Hoffman, Bakhita Combey, Dylan Hernandez (partly hidden), Kojo Oduro, Leonardo Salazar and Landon Jacobus. Photo/ St. Anthony School

Superintendent reads to students



The new superintendent of Columbus diocesan schools, Adam Dufault, visited Columbus St. Anthony School and read a book to a class of students. He also toured the building and met with the principal and staff.

Photo courtesy St. Anthony School

LIVING Faith

Tips from the rosary challenged

I have a love-hate relationship with the rosary. In fact, I consider myself rosary-challenged.

Maybe this falls under guilty confessions, because I have a tremendous love and devotion for Mary. I feel an obligation to get over the hurdles I find in the rosary and keep struggling through it.

I used to think that being rosary-challenged was a legitimate reason for not praying the rosary. "It's just not the devotion for me," I'd think after another unsuccessful run at trying to pray it regularly. "I'll try (insert any other devotion) instead."

Inevitably, after weeks or months or, in one case, years, I would find myself feeling a loud, unmistakable call to pray the rosary.

"But ... " I'd stammer. "I'm NO GOOD at this!"

The call would get pretty annoying, even to the point of people giving me beautiful rosaries as gifts.

"There's just NO TIME for a rosary!" I'd protest.

Wouldn't you know I'd happen to have a reason to rise at a crazy-early time or be up in the wee hours of the silent night? Maybe I'd find myself with a long drive and no radio.

My response most recently has been rather adolescent, I'll admit.

"FINE! I'll pray it. BUT YOU CAN'T MAKE ME LIKE IT!"

Oh, don't get me wrong. The rosary is, and remains, a powerful part of my prayer life. The reassuring path through Jesus' life and ministry and the insights it holds for my life and my vocation are never-ending.

What follows are rosary tips from one of the rosary-challenged.

Commit.

Sometimes you'll have days where praying the rosary seems trumped by other cares and concerns. Other times, I have days where I just ... don't ... cooperate.

I have found, though, that viewing the rosary as "not optional" helps me. It has to be something as non-negotiable as dinner or clean underwear or brushing my teeth for me to take it seriously. It's a promise I make to myself. And to God.

Hard though it is, I never cease to be blessed by it.



FINDING FAITH IN EVERYDAY LIFE Sarah Reinhard

One at a time.

This "one decade at a time" mentality is, in fact, how I got hooked on the rosary. Don't look at it as 59 prayers. See it as a group of 10 Hail Marys. That's it. Start with the first decade in the set of mysteries you're praying and get that done. Move to the next mystery. And so forth.

Maybe you'll pray a decade as you make coffee and breakfast and another in the shower. Or maybe it will be part of your commute to work. Use those times when you otherwise would be twiddling your thumbs and use your fingers to keep track of Hail Marys.

There are times in my life when I have to accept less than 10 Hail Marys. Though it may mark me as both a super slacker and heretical, I think it's better to pray a quality rosary than to get it "done."

One decade, prayed from your heart, means more for you and to God than the whole rosary, prayed as a race. (That said, I don't know that I've ever REALLY prayed a quality rosary.)

Change it up.

Feel yourself getting stale? There are audio rosaries (many of them available as free downloads), different kinds of rosaries (the Scriptural Rosary, the Franciscan Crown, for example), sung rosaries, and many books of meditations. Try something different when you feel yourself losing focus or feeling tempted to give it up.

Dedicate your efforts to something special.

Is there someone in your life who needs special prayer? Can you think of someone who could use a miracle? Do you have an intention that really needs some attention? Use the rosary and dedicate your prayer efforts to that intention.

Maybe each decade gets dedicated to an intention. I know people who use each bead of their rosary for a person in their life.

There's no limit to what you can do.

I find that giving my rosary a purpose gives me different motivation for praying – motivation that I need to use when rosary praying is especially hard.

Ask your guardian angel to help.

If, as my mother-in-law and others in her generation insist, your guardian angel really does finish your rosary if you don't or can't, doesn't that indicate a vested interest in helping you to pray it in the first place? When I do ask my guardian angel to help me, I'm never disappointed (provided I cooperate with the help he gives me, mind you).

Pray with others.

Whether in person or virtually, this can really help. Come Pray the Rosary (www.ComePraytheRosary.org) allows you to pray from the comfort of your home with people all over the world. You can also call a friend, or commit to praying at a certain time every day, knowing that the other person is also praying.

Involving others in your rosary praying can give you the inclination you might not otherwise have. It can also bless you far beyond what you expect.

Don't give up.

If today you fail, try again tomorrow, and know there's grace in the persevering.

Sarah Reinhard is a Catholic wife, mother, and writer in central Ohio. Get her Catholic take every weekday at <http://bit.ly/TripleTakeOSV>.

Sister Sharen leaves JOIN after 16 years

Sister Sharen Baldy, SCN, has left the Joint Organization for Inner-City Ministries (JOIN) after 16 years, most of them as its associate director. She is returning to her community, the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth, to continue her service to those in need. She was honored at a reception on her last day at work, Friday, Sept. 14.

"It's very difficult to leave JOIN because my life has been to serve others, whether in teaching or social work," Sister Sharen said. "I will be trying to find a way to do that again in Louisville, Kentucky," where she will be moving at the end of the month.

"The first week of not having Sister Sharen at JOIN managed to make this very busy office feel empty," said JOIN director Lisa Keita. "Her stories and her laugh would make the lowest day feel joyful."

"I am grateful that she stayed here as long as she did after Ruth (former JOIN director Ruth Beckman) retired (in 2015). She was essential in JOIN maintaining the spirit of compassion and love that Ruth cultivated for 35 years.

"Sister saw Christ in everyone who came in our door. She played a supporting role to all of us being able to keep that same frame of mind. We are sorry to let her go, but are happy for the new

folks she will be blessing with her kindness, her laugh, her wonderful stories and her most charitable heart.

"We also know that she won't forget us and will keep us in her prayers. She is a special woman, so full of warmth and love and compassion and joy. We love her a lot."

Mark Huddy, diocesan moderator for Catholic Charities and social concerns, described her as "the compassionate face of Jesus for so many JOIN clients, volunteers and staff for 16 years."

Sister Sharen, 75, was born in Erie, Pennsylvania. She and her family moved to Corning in Perry County when she was eight years old to care for her grandmother, then moved later to Columbus, where she graduated from Holy Family High School in 1960.

She took her first vows with the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth in 1963 and her final vows in 1968.

She spent 27 years as an educator on Ohio and Kentucky, including teaching first grade from 1968-74 at Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul School, followed by 10 years with Catholic Charities in Louisville, Kentucky. She returned in Columbus in 2002 to care for her mother and began working for JOIN soon afterward.

ADVOCATING FOR CHILDREN WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

By Tim Puet, *Catholic Times Reporter*

As the father of two children with autism, Mark Butler has spent most of the last two decades making sure the agencies that serve them are providing them with the proper assistance. He and his wife, Susan, even were forced to surrender custody of their son for a year to help him have access to the care he needed.

Butler has become a well-known advocate for Ohio children with developmental disabilities, testifying before state legislative committees and talking to parents facing similar situations to that of his family.

He says he tells those parents that the most important thing they can do is “keep fighting for your child. There are lots of resources out there that can provide help. If you get one answer and you do not like it, that is not the end of it. Look elsewhere; keep challenging.

“Susan and I have learned that making sure a developmentally disabled child has what he or she needs is a never-ending battle. First, you get the child into a school, then you make sure the child’s IEP (Individualized Education Program) is providing the right tools. The years go by and you are looking at adult services and finding good housing.

“Now we are looking at the situation from even more of a long-term view,” Butler said. “God willing, the kids will outlive us. What happens then? You come to realize that you are in this for the rest of your life. It’s a constant struggle, but it’s one we’ve been able to deal with thanks to the support provided by our Catholic faith, our fellow parishioners at

Holy Spirit, and the love of our family.”

Butler is education resource coordinator in the Office of Founded Ministries of the Dominican Sisters of Peace and continues to coordinate catechetical programs at Columbus Holy Spirit Church. He previously was director of the diocesan Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry.

He will be speaking on the subject



Katie (left) and Andrew Butler of Columbus. Katie, 21, and Andrew, 20, both have been diagnosed with autism. Katie’s autism is at Level 2 and Andrew’s is at Level 3, the most severe type.

of advocating for children with disabilities at a diocesan conference on “Building a Culture of Life: Respect Life, Bioethics and Leadership” at Sunbury St. John Neumann Church on Saturday, Oct. 20.

Autism Speaks, an agency dedicated to educating people about autism and providing support for persons with autism and their families, defines autism as “a broad range of conditions characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviors, speech and nonverbal communication.” It affects an estimated one in 59 children.

A family can have a child or children with autism and others who do not have autism. That is the case with the Butlers, who have three children. Their oldest, Anna, 23, who does not have autism, was valedictorian of her

high school class, is a graduate of The Ohio State University and is working as a scientist. The middle child, Katie, 21, lives with her parents. “The DSM-5 (the American Psychiatric Association’s Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders) identifies three levels of autism, and she is at Level 2,” Butler said.

“The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities re-evaluated her as an adult and determined she was not ‘disabled enough’ to be eligible for services from the county. Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities, the state agency that helps adults with disabilities find employment, feels that she is ‘too disabled’ for their services. She is in an unfortunate, frustrating gap of services between the two.”

“We try to program her day,” Butler said. “She loves to draw and loves going to Mass. She has a strong faith, volunteering every week as a hall monitor at Holy Spirit PSR classes. She still needs substantial support, but is doing well at home and has a happy life.”

The Butlers’ youngest child, Andrew, 20, has been diagnosed with an intellectual disability, mental illnesses, and Level 3 autism, the most severe type. “If there were 10 levels, he probably would be at Level 10,” Butler said. Andrew is unable to communicate verbally. During his teen years, he often became seized by uncontrollable emotion and would physically attack his parents and sisters and damage their home. One of those attacks injured Butler’s anterior cruciate ligament.

“Developmentally, Andrew is a lot like a toddler. He is very severely disabled, and for him, this was like going through puberty and the ‘terrible twos’ at the same time,” Butler said. “He also has a seizure disorder. He was taking medications for both his behavior and the seizures, and they conflicted with each other. It was a struggle to find balance. You’d have seizures every day, then no seizures, but outbursts of rage.”

During one of those behavioral crises in 2014, Andrew was admitted to Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center. Staff there told Butler that

the only way to get Andrew the care he needed was to surrender custody of him to Franklin County Children Services. This means that the state’s child-protection system, the only federal funding stream that can be used to pay room and board for residential treatment, would pay for Andrew’s care. Private insurance often is inadequate, and Medicaid does not cover the residential part of the mental health treatment Andrew needed.

Andrew ultimately was sent to the Necco Center near Ironton in Lawrence County, on Ohio’s southern tip – a five-hour round trip from Columbus. “Ironton might as well be the moon,” Butler told *The Columbus Dispatch* in a 2016 story about the family.

Children Services returned custody of Andrew to the Butlers after a year, and Andrew and another young man from Columbus were able to move to an apartment with 24-hour staff. Nevertheless, both were still in Ironton because the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities did not provide in the Columbus area for the level of care they needed.

“Franklin County did not deal with adolescents in situations like Andrew’s,” Butler said. “Once he turned 18, he could return to the county, but there were no residential replacements available. We had to face the huge challenge of finding a landlord and a new service provider that his roommate’s family could agree upon.”

A Holy Spirit parishioner was able to answer Butler’s concerns by saying he was willing to rent a house to Andrew and his roommate. “It’s amazing that someone would rent to two disabled teens who had a history of property damage and who are living on a fixed income,” Butler said.

Andrew and his roommate moved to their new home in Whitehall, not far from the Butlers’ residence, in June 2016. On-site care providers for the home are funded through the disabilities board. “We visit him regularly and take him out into the community and back to our house,” Butler said. “Andrew’s taking medication

BUTLER FAMILY, continued from P. 10

to help control his behavior, and it is greatly improved, but you have to be constantly vigilant. It is wonderful to no longer be afraid of him.

“Andrew goes to a school called Reach Educational Services which specializes in serving people like him who need to prepare for the transition into daytime services and programs for adults with developmental disabilities. The Whitehall School District pays for all this. Whitehall has been wonderful through all of this, paying for both Katie’s and Andrew’s education since we first learned they had autism.”

Autism Speaks says autism’s early signs can be



Susan Butler with her children Katie (left) and Andrew, both of whom have been diagnosed with autism. Katie lives with her parents in Whitehall. Mark and another young man with autism live nearby. Photos courtesy Butler family

stopped,” Butler said.

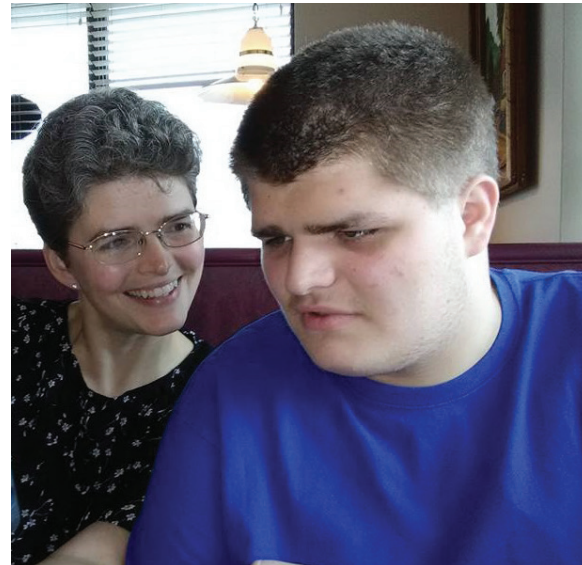
“Andrew began going to special education classes at age 2 and he’s been in school ever since. The family has been involved with special education for more than 18 years. State law says your local public schools take over responsibility in these

kinds of cases when a child turns 3, and we have been very fortunate that Whitehall has been supportive and willing to collaborate with us from the very beginning.

“Whitehall researched what was out there and found a recently opened school now called Oakstone Academy in Columbus, where both Katie and Andrew were educated through high school. Katie graduated from Oakstone, and Andrew attended until he was 16 and had to move away. We were pioneers, the first Whitehall family to have kids going

to Oakstone. Now Whitehall sends a bus full of students there every day because they’ve been so pleased with how the school helped our kids and others from Whitehall,” Butler said.

“People in general have become much more aware of autism in the last 15 years and have realized it’s a lot more complicated than what they may have seen with Dustin Hoffman in the old movie *Rain Man*,” he said. Educational opportunities for children with autism in both public and Catholic schools have been expanded. In the Diocese of Columbus, the SPICE (Special People in Catholic Education) program has resulted in many



improvements.

Butler’s experiences led him and others facing similar circumstances related to their children to work on lobbying Ohio lawmakers for additional aid. “I asked ‘Why is my son in Ironton?’ and was told ‘Because that’s the way it is,’ and I said ‘Well, we are going to have to change that,’” Butler said.

The Legislature eventually responded by creating a \$10 million crisis stabilization fund, using federally allocated money to help families pay for support groups, child

care, transportation and other expenses required to provide children with a safe home environment. The fund is part of the two-year budget that runs through June 30, 2019, with \$5 million set aside per year.

However, a year after the fund was created, none of the money has been used because of strings attached to it by the federal government. State officials say it is only available to families with annual incomes at or below 200 percent of the poverty line – about \$50,200 for a four-person household – and it cannot be used for residential treatment or clinical services. It can pay for support groups, mentoring, child and respite care, transportation, household expenses, and other activities designed to keep a child at home.

“The money was set aside, but bureaucracy has kept it from reaching the people who need it,” Butler said. “That’s why I’m continuing to be an advocate for the developmentally disabled. It is a battle to be fought every day.

“I never want another parent to make the phone call I did to children’s services to begin the process of relinquishing custody. I would not wish that on anyone, and I know there are other families being told the same thing I was. Getting the state funding was a great first step. It will be even better once the money starts flowing, but there’s still a lot of work to be done.”



Katie and Mark Butler with their son, Andrew, at his first birthday party in 1999.

observed in a child by ages 2 or 3, and sometimes as early as 18 months. “Almost from birth, Katie did not like being held closely and wasn’t hitting some developmental milestones,” Butler said. “Susan is a teacher with a degree in child development, so she knew this was significant. Katie was about two-and-a-half when people from the county agency began working with her.

“Andrew was hitting all the milestones, and then at about one-and-a-half, it changed. I remember when he was little, we used to sit at dinner and play games. I’d stick my tongue out at him and he would do the same. Then all of a sudden, it

A graphic for Modlich Monument Company. It features a stylized 'M' logo above the company name 'MODLICH Monument Company' in blue and red text. Below that, the phrase 'Beautifully handcrafted' is written in a red script font. At the bottom, the phone number '614-276-1439' and the website 'modlich-monument.com' are listed. The background is a light-colored, textured surface.

TWO NEW ORGANIZATIONS FORM TO HELP SINGLE MOTHERS

By Tim Puet, *Catholic Times* Reporter

Two new organizations – Mommies Matter and Bottoms Up -- have been formed in central Ohio to help meet the spiritual, emotional and practical needs of single mothers.

The mission of Mommies Matter is the removal of barriers facing single mothers, empowering them to choose life for their babies.

“It’s not about giving birth, but giving life,” said Monica Flynn, the organization’s executive director. “As an extension of pregnancy care services, Mommies Matter walks with single mothers through their pregnancies and until their babies are 18 months old.”

The goal of Bottoms Up is to supply diapers for the children of those mothers. “If you can afford diapers, you may not think very much about their cost. But diapers are a big expense when you live below the poverty line, as nearly three million single mothers do in the United States,” said Bottoms Up director Tim Welsh. “Diapers cost about \$1,000 a year. When you’re a single mother making \$12,000 a year, that’s a big impact.”

Both organizations are an offshoot of a group known as AND (founded by Welsh) – an abbreviation for Angels Nurture & Disciple – which was formed last year with similar goals. AND in turn grew out of the Pregnancy Decision Health Centers, which operate clinics in four central Ohio locations and have a history of providing women’s care services that goes back to 1981.

Welsh was president of PDHC for 10 years and took the same position with AND, which has been dissolved. Before forming Mommies Matter, Flynn was AND’s director of programs. She earlier was with PDHC.

“Mommies Matter represents a further development from what was known as the Guardian Angel Program for single mothers when PDHC started it in the fall of 2014. That program was released by PDHC, and its name became AND. Now that same program, with the same mission of helping single pregnant women, has been renamed to Mommies Matter,” Flynn said.

The organization combines group support and spiritual guidance with one-on-one assistance by pairing a sin-

gle mother with one or more women known as allies, who commit themselves to helping a single mother for the first 18 months after a child is born.

The allies are asked to be available whenever the mothers feel a need for assistance. In this way, they serve as extended family to the mothers. A woman who acts as an ally may be paired with one or more mothers, just as the mothers can have one or more allies. Flynn said Mommies Matter, which was formed during the summer, currently has 12 allies working with 15 mothers.

Besides meeting individually, the allies and mothers get together twice a month for enrichment gatherings in



which they share a meal, listen to a speaker, and spend time with each other. Child care is offered during these sessions for mothers who need a few hours for self-care time.

Flynn said the program is designed mainly for pregnant single mothers. “Women’s care organizations know that if pregnant women are provided with a support system, they are less likely to abort,” she said. It also serves new mothers having difficulty bonding and parenting with their newborn babies and extends its outreach to women who had an abortion.

Referrals to Mommies Matter are made primarily by Columbus-area pregnancy resource centers, such as PDHC and the Women’s Care Center. Referrals also come from other medical maternity agencies, including the Stowe Mission, Nationwide Children’s Hospital, the Heart of Ohio Family Health Center and The Women’s Clinic of Columbus, and from individuals. These organizations all share the mission of serving women in crisis and providing support during pregnancy. Mommies Matter dovetails these services and continues that support into a child’s first year of life.

“Every mother is a gift to her child, and we use the letters GIFT in describing our services,” Flynn said. The G

stands for group support and emotional guidance through enrichment gatherings. The I is for individualized assistance and long-term goal planning to address each mother’s individual needs. No two mothers are alike; each has an individual set of concerns. We have an on-staff advocate, Kristin Garrabrant, who helps mothers eliminate barriers related to issues such as transportation, housing, child care and education.”

“The F in GIFT stands for financial assistance and community partnerships to help break down those barriers,” Flynn said. “For example, we have one single mother who completed nursing school, but didn’t have the money she needed to take the test for her nursing license. We paid for the test. If a mother has found a house or apartment to rent, but doesn’t have enough for the deposit, we pay for the deposit.”

“The T is for therapy, counseling and trauma resolution. All of the single mothers we serve have experienced or are experiencing trauma of some kind. Many are dealing with past or present toxic relationships. If they need help so they can receive therapy for their trauma, we will pay for it. Someday, we would like to have a trauma specialist on our staff.”

Other Mommies Matter staff mem-



bers besides Flynn and Garrabrant are Gina McCauley, who serves as operations manager, and December Somerset, who is outreach coordinator and in charge of marketing. The organization also has many volunteers in roles such as cooks, child care assistants, baby shower providers, movers, church liaisons, speakers, event planners and marketers. In addition, it works with several community partners including childhood development centers, churches and local businesses, plus the women’s care organizations.

Flynn said single mothers in Ohio are more likely to live in poverty than any other demographic group, are twice as likely to live in poverty than single fathers, and are seven times more likely to live in poverty than mothers in two-par-

ent households.

“If we love the single mothers we serve, we must meet them where they are,” Flynn said. We ask them the question ‘What happened to you?’ rather than ‘What are you doing?’ It’s so courageous for women to choose life when so much around them encourages abortion.

“It’s our goal to help them be the best mothers they can be and to help them stay out of poverty. We also are here to help them on their faith journey. Some mothers encounter God for the first time at an enrichment gathering, while others are continuing the faith tradition of their upbringing. What unites us all is our desire to grow in the knowledge of God and his will for each of us.”

Welsh said he started thinking in May about forming the organization that became Bottoms Up, which began collecting diapers for single mothers in July. “It was easy to put together. People love giving diapers. It doesn’t take a lot of money or time,” he said.

He notes that there are 9.6 million single mothers in the United States, 2.9 million of whom live in poverty. They are raising 17.2 million children younger than 18. Single women with children represent 60 percent of the nation’s homeless families.

“When I was working with AND, we realized diapers were one of the biggest needs for single mothers,” Welsh said. “For many, they make up a huge percentage of annual income. This too often forces single mothers to make the choice of having to reuse disposable diapers. That’s a poor choice for many reasons. It’s not healthy, and it can add a level of physical and emotional tension to a home.”

“I learned in my experience with pregnancy centers that having them store and collect diapers takes a lot of room, time and effort, and the centers always are concerned about running out, since government agencies don’t supply diapers. Bottoms Up wants to be able to say to the centers that they’ll never have to worry about running out of diapers. This will allow them to concentrate on their core mission of providing support to mothers,” he said.

Welsh has set a goal of collecting one million diapers by July of next year.

Greater Columbus Right to Life is active all year

By Beth Vanderkooi
Executive Director
Greater Columbus Right to Life

For more than 40 years, Greater Columbus Right to Life has been central Ohio's grassroots pro-life education and advocacy organization, focusing on the fundamentals of protecting the dignity of innocent human life from conception until natural death. Through prayer, education and community advocacy, we help individuals, church groups and community organizations to better understand, communicate and share the pro-life message.

We are especially motivated to end abortion, embryonic stem cell research, euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide, and we work to protect religious freedom and defend the rights of conscience related to our pro-life mission.

For example, our sidewalk counseling and prayer program, as well as our 40 Days for Life vigils and the annual Roe Remembrance, generate thousands of hours of prayer in the fight against abortion.

The Roe Remembrance takes place every Jan. 22 in the atrium of the Ohio Statehouse following the Respect Life Mass at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral. 40 Days for Life is an international campaign that brings 40 days of prayer to the sidewalk near an abor-

tion clinic twice per year – once in the spring during Lent, and once in the fall.

The current 40 Days for Life campaign (www.gertl.org/40-days-for-life) is taking place outside the Planned Parenthood abortion center at 3255 E. Main St., Columbus, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily through Sunday, Nov. 4. In addition, throughout the year, individuals trained in sidewalk ministry are joined by informal prayer partners at the site to provide prayer, information and referrals to women considering abortion. Greater Columbus Right to Life invites anyone interested in sidewalk counseling or becoming a prayer partner to join the team as it also works to provide prayer at a former abortion clinic site that may be reopened.

Besides serving as a watchdog on local abortion clinics, we started a program that makes the public aware of illegal and unethical activity at the clinics or of their failure to pass Ohio Department of Health inspections. If women are hurt at local abortion clinics, we assist them in seeking medical care and legal representation. We also publish periodic information about abortion statistics. In the past decade, a combination of prayer, activism, education and other pro-life efforts by community partners has resulted in a decline in local abortion rates of more than 30 percent. This is estimated to

mean that more than 12,000 children have been spared from abortion.

The scope of our activities extends beyond abortion. Greater Columbus Right to Life also is working to stop physician-assisted suicide and euthanasia, to provide information on better end-of-life medical directives, and to advocate for compassionate medical care for those at the end of life. We are strong advocates for protecting religious liberty and rights of conscience, especially when it comes to matters related to the pro-life message.

Custom talks and programs are available for your parish or group at no cost as part of our commitment to community-based education. We also sponsor several events every year at a nominal or limited cost. Examples are the recent

pre-screening of *Gosnell: The Trial of America's Biggest Serial Killer* and the diocesan "Building A Culture of Life" conference" on Saturday, October 20. You can learn more about this daylong conference, which will provide across-the-board pro-life training that will be helpful and uplifting, whether you are new to the pro-life movement or a seasoned advocate, by going to www.bclc2018.eventbrite.com.

Finally, we want to take this opportunity during Respect Life Month to voice our sincere appreciation to central Ohio's Catholic community and the *Catholic Times* for your support as volunteers, prayer warriors and financial supporters. If you are not yet involved with our work, we invite you to learn a little more about or join us at www.gertl.org.

MOTHERS, continued from Page 12

About a dozen volunteers are assisting him. He anticipates that the diapers will be supplied to mothers by the Women's Care Center, PDHC and Birthright. For now, Bottoms Up is supplying all the diapers for only the Women's Care Center and seeing how its efforts work there.

To date, Bottoms Up has received about 25,000 diapers. For now, they are being stored at donated storage space. About 18,000 came in response to a request by Welsh and his wife, Jo, to send a box of diapers as a gift for the couple's 40th wedding anniversary in August.

Diaper drives for the organization have been or are being conducted by Lancaster St. Mary, Sunbury St. John Neumann, Columbus St. Timothy and Columbus St. Patrick churches, as well as Catholic youth groups, the Buckeye auto dealerships in Lancaster and Hilliard, National Church Residences, and

Engineered Profiles on Columbus' west side. "We're looking for more sponsors like this," Welch said. "Diaper drives are fun things to do."

Diapers may be donated by going to the Bottoms Up website, www.bottomsup.life, and clicking on "Purchase Diapers for Bottoms Up." People and businesses also can help by providing direct financial support or hosting a diaper drive. Sustaining memberships are available for people who wish to adopt a single mother and support her with diapers for one or two years.

For more information on Mommies Matter, go to www.mommiesmatter.org, send an email to monicaf@mommiesmatter.org or call (614) 353-6765.

For more on Bottoms Up, go to www.bottomsup.life, email Welsh at tim@angelsand.org or call or text (614) 419-6985.



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Wine & Cheese

Speaker Event



October 11, 2018 at 5 p.m.

The Marthas annual **Wine & Cheese Speaker Event** is Thursday, October 11 at The Catholic Foundation at 5 p.m. Our speaker this year is **Emily Jaminet**, speaking on "**Living a 24/Hour A Day Spirituality, not on Spiritual Crumbs**".

RSVP by **October 8** to Kristin Shuey
kshuey@catholic-foundation.org | 614-443-8893



257 East Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43215 | 614-443-8893 | www.catholic-foundation.org

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B

Imitate Jesus in times of pain and confusion

By Jem Sullivan

Catholic News Service

Genesis 2:18-24

Psalm 128:1-6

Hebrews 2:9-11

Gospel: Mark 10:2-16

“I have more than 100 friends on Facebook!” and “I’ve got close to 1,000 followers on Twitter!” We’ve heard such claims from family and friends as they speak about their network of relationships through social media.

Today, we have become accustomed to beginning and ending relationships with the speed of a mouse click as we “like,” “friend” or “tweet” people in the digital world. In this way, we make and break relationships easily as we move instantly from one social network to the next.

God’s word today offers us a faith perspective on human relationships. This divine perspective begins in the Genesis account of the creation of the world and of human beings. The Genesis account is all about how we are related to God and to one another. Perhaps this is why the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* speaks of our understanding of creation through the lens of Christian faith as a teaching of fundamental importance.

To be human is to be in relationship. We are born into a family, however small, large or broken our experience of family relationships might be. We come into this world as the fruit of love and unity in the sacred gift of new life. And this basic dimension of our human relationships is part and parcel of God’s design for the world.

Our relationships are not meant to be random, superficial or arbitrary.

God desires for us to live and flourish in stable relationships that fulfill our deepest human longings for unconditional love and unity. And so we read in today’s first reading these profound words: “The Lord God said ‘It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a suitable partner for him.’”

God created us to live in unity and friendship with him. This is the first and primary gift that faith gives us. We are never alone. We are part of the family of God, the community of the church and the community of our family and friends.

And the unique relationships of marriage and family that God created us for also have a divine origin and purpose. Marriage and family life are the relationships by which we are meant to experience the love of God, who is a communion of divine persons – Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

In the lived reality of marriage and family, there are many whose relationships are wounded and broken. By virtue of baptism and our creation by God, those who experience this brokenness are part of God’s family as they stand in need of healing love and forgiveness. It is this divine merciful love that Jesus brings to all. In particular, Jesus blesses the children to whom the kingdom of God belongs.

As we reflect on our relationships in light of God’s word, we approach God in humble and grateful prayer, saying “Speak to me, Lord.”

Reflection Question:

How does God’s word invite me to grow in friendship with God and neighbor today?

Sullivan is secretary for Catholic education of the Archdiocese of Washington.

THE WEEKDAY
BIBLE READINGS

MONDAY

Galatians 1:6-12
Psalm 111:1-2,7-10
Luke 10:25-37

TUESDAY

Galatians 1:13-24
Psalm 139:1-3,13-15
Luke 10:38-42

WEDNESDAY

Galatians 2:1-2,7-14
Psalm 117:1-2
Luke 11:1-4

THURSDAY

Galatians 3:1-5
Luke 1:69-75 (Ps)
Luke 11:5-13

FRIDAY

Galatians 3:7-14
Psalm 111:1-6
Luke 11:15-26

SATURDAY

Galatians 3:22-29
Psalm 105:2-7
Luke 11:27-28

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO
AND TELEVISION MASS
SCHEDULE: OCT. 7, 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, Ala., at 8 a.m. on EWTN (Spectrum Channel 385, Insight Channel 382, or WOW Channel 378). (Encores at noon, 7 p.m., and midnight).

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

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

DAILY MASS

8 a.m., Our Lady of the Angels Monastery in Birmingham, Ala. (Encores at noon, 7 p.m. and midnight). See EWTN above; and on I-Lifetv (Channel 113 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 Week III, Seasonal Proper of the Liturgy of the Hours.

Josephinum to host ‘live-in’ weekend

Men discerning a vocation often find encouragement and motivation by visiting a seminary campus.

Twice during the academic year, the Pontifical College Josephinum hosts a “live-in” weekend for high school juniors and seniors and college students who are interested in learning about the only pontifical seminary located outside Italy.

The next “live-in” weekend at the college, 7625 N. High St., Columbus, will be from Friday, Oct. 18 to Sunday, Oct. 20.

Participants will experience prayer life, classes, communal worship, and interaction with seminarians, faculty and staff.

“Live-in” weekends include introductory presentations on discernment, student life and the college’s seminary formation program.

Visits to the Josephinum outside of “live-in” weekends also are welcomed and encouraged.

For more information or to schedule a visit, call Arminda Crawford at (614) 985-2241 or (1-888) 252-5812.

 Living ‘I Do’ – Weekly Marriage Tips 

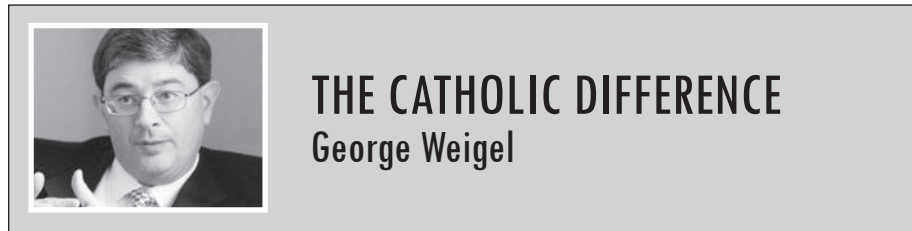
Theodore Roosevelt said “Comparison is the thief of joy.” It is easy sometimes to compare our marriages with the ones we see in real life or on social media. Instead of comparing spouses or relationships, we can take the opportunity to imitate what we admire. We also can bring the things we admire in others to our prayer, because they indicate points of weakness for us.

Diocese of Columbus Marriage and Family Life Office

Courage in the Slough of Despond

I never took a class from historian Frank Orlando, but the motto he placed in the faculty section of my college yearbook – “History is an antidote for despair” – has stuck with me for 45 years. It also seems quite appropriate at this disturbing moment in the life of the Church, so perhaps a history lesson is in order.

Forty years ago this week, the Catholic Church was in serious trouble. The last years of Pope Paul VI had witnessed an endless sequence of controversies, of which mass dissent from the encyclical *Humanae Vitae* – dissent that would have devastating effects on clerical discipline and erode episcopal authority – was but one. The pope seemed dispirited toward the end of his reign, publicly berating God for having not heard his prayer that the life of his friend Aldo Moro be spared (Moro had been murdered by terrorists). The promise of evangelical Catholic renewal that had animated John XXIII’s opening address to the Second Vatican Council in 1962 seemed falsified by the trauma of the post-conciliar years.



THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE
George Weigel

Then came a brief moment of exuberance, as Catholic spirits were lifted by the election of Cardinal Albino Luciani to the papacy. The new Pope John Paul I smiled. He gave brilliant little catechetical lessons during his Wednesday general audiences. A book of his “letters” to characters ranging from Dickens and Chesterton to Pinocchio and Figaro the Barber charmed the world. The Good News seemed, well, good again.

Then, 33 days into what seemed a promising pontificate, Pope John Paul I was found dead in his bed on the morning of Sept. 28, 1978.

And the Church was plunged back into Bunyan’s Slough of Despond.

The shock of the pope’s death was perhaps most intense among the men who had just put Luciani on the Chair of

Peter. Twenty years later, an American cardinal-elect, William Baum, told me that this latest blow to the Church had been “a message from the Lord, quite out of the ordinary. ... This was an inter-vention from the Lord to teach us something.” Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger told me that he had been similarly stunned: “We were convinced that the election (of John Paul I) was made in accordance with the will of God, not simply in a human way ... and if one month after being elected in accordance with the will of God, he died, God had something to say to us.”

What God was saying, some cardinal-electors concluded, was that it was a time for courage.

So when the two principal Italian contenders in the second conclave of 1978 deadlocked and essentially canceled each other out as candidates, several cardinals summoned up the courage to propose what then seemed virtually unthinkable: looking outside Italy for a pope. Cardinal Franz Koenig of Vienna was the leader of this party of dramatic change. But he was not alone. And those who rallied to Koenig and his courageous suggestion that the conclave elect a young man, 58-year-old Karol Wojtyla of Cracow, should also be remembered: men like the Polish primate, Cardinal

Stefan Wyszyński; the archbishop of Philadelphia, Cardinal John Krol; and one of the youngest and newest members of the conclave, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, archbishop of Munich and Freising.

It also took courage for Karol Wojtyla to accept election, knowing that he would have to leave the rich Cracovian culture from which he drew strength and inspiration. But it’s the courage of the cardinal-electors on which we might well focus our attention now, when the Catholic Church seems bogged down in another Slough of Despond.

The Wojtyla electors were men accustomed to a certain order of things, who had themselves benefited from that order. But in a moment of crisis, they had the courage to think outside the conventional norms and imagine what once seemed unimaginable. They were prepared to face the skeptical, even hostile reaction of fellow cardinals who could not wrap their minds around such a dramatic innovation, and whose instinctive reaction to crisis was to find a safe pair of hands who would calm things down. They were willing to try the unprecedented.

The story of their courage 40 years ago should be an antidote to the despair some Catholics feel today. It should also inspire the bishops to get to grips with this crisis and think outside the conventions in resolving it. And it should inspire the authorities in Rome, including the highest authority.

Weigel is distinguished senior fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington.

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PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

BIRCH, Catherine D. (Downs), 85, Sept. 23
Immaculate Conception Church, Columbus

BROWN, Mary A. (Lewis), 87, Sept. 21
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

ELMO, Dr. Phillip, 61, Sept. 27
Holy Family Church, Columbus

FASONE, Carolyn F. (Grove), 81, Sept. 10
Holy Family Church, Columbus

FRENCH, William W., 97, Sept. 29
Corpus Christi Church, Columbus

HANNA, Patricia A. (Lecrone), 77, Sept. 23
St. Mary Church, Bremen

IESULAURO, Anthony J., 71, formerly of Reynoldsburg, Sept. 22
St. Andrew Church, Saline, Mich.

JAMES, Roberta L. (Lowe), 75, Sept. 30
St. John Neumann Church, Sunbury

JAQUAY, Mary B. (Guth), 91, Sept. 18
St. Leo Church, Columbus

MCCARTHY, Loriann T., 51, Sept. 28
St. Mary, Mother of God Church, Columbus

NANCE, Thomas A., 52, formerly of Columbus, Sept. 26
St. Columban Church, Loveland

RICO, William A., 94, Sept. 23
Resurrection Cemetery Chapel, Lewis Center

SALING, Carol T. (Copestick), 93, Sept. 27
St. Matthias Church, Columbus

SAUER (BOWMAN), Genevieve (Rizek), 81, Sept. 21
St. Leo Church, Columbus

STALEY, Mary J. (Harper), 72, Sept. 27
St. Cecilia Church, Columbus

TOOILL, Jane W. (Kriglein), 91, Sept. 14
St. Mark Church, Lancaster

WALTER, Elaine M. (Downs), 87, Sept. 30
St. Agatha Church, Columbus

ZIEMBA, Agnes (Sicosky), 96, Sept. 29
St. Paul Church, Westerville

ZIFER, Nancy J. (Leone), 79, Sept. 24
St. Joseph Church, Dover

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

Rita Connor

Funeral Mass for Rita Connor, 80, who died Monday, Sept. 24, was celebrated Friday, Sept. 28 at Columbus St. Anthony Church. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

She was a graduate of Columbus Rosary High School and Capital University and a retired teacher for Columbus Public Schools. She served as organist and music director for St.

Anthony Church for more than 40 years.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Eddie and Dora Eckstein. Survivors include sons, Mike and Dan (Courtney); daughters, Cathy (Jeff) Green, Linda (Tom) White, and Karen Thompson; sister, Jeanne (Jerry) Kraus; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Sue Ann Sanderell

Funeral Mass for Sue Ann Sanderell, 76, who died Sunday, Sept. 23, was celebrated Thursday, Sept. 27 at Lancaster St. Mark Church. Burial was at St. Mary Cemetery, Lancaster.

She was born on April 7, 1942 in Lancaster to Orvel and Mary (Kellenbarger) Gorby.

She was a founding member of St. Mark Church, which she served for many years as bookkeeper. She also

was employed by Chase Bank and was a member of the ladies group of Knights of Columbus Council 1016.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and sisters, Linda Disbennett and Anita Van Gundy. Survivors include her husband, Bernard; sons, Andrew, Pete and Jim (Michelle); daughter, Maggie (Bob) Bennett; brothers, Steve (Paula), Bill (Bernadette), and Joe; sister, Marcia (Tom) Hill; and 14 grandchildren.

ODU to host sports discussion

Ohio Dominican University will welcome central Ohio university athletic leaders at its fourth annual "A Life and Career in Sports" event at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 24, on the lower level of the Bishop Griffin Center, 1215 Sunbury Road, Columbus.

The event will feature a panel discussion that includes Ohio State University officials Diana Sabau, executive associate athletics director; Janine Oman, deputy athletics director; Erica Hoon, assistant athletics director for event management; and Kim Doran, senior associate director of instructional support services, as well as Kristy McCray, assistant professor of sport management, Otterbein University; Kate Cummings, Ohio Dominican adjunct professor of sport management and former head women's basketball coach at the University of Findlay; and

Kate Riffée, Ohio Dominican adjunct professor of sport management and President of Riffée Consulting, LLC

"We're excited to welcome this group of university athletic leaders and academics as they share their experiences, insight and observations of athletics, particularly at the intercollegiate level," said Dr. Jim Strode, dean of graduate studies at ODU. "This is a wonderful opportunity for students to learn more about the growing athletics industry and the many career opportunities available."

Those attending the event are invited to network and enjoy complimentary refreshments before the panel discussion. To register, visit ohiodominican.edu/SportCareer. The event is sponsored by ODU's office of graduate admissions and its master of science in sport management program.

Newark Catholic sponsors prayer breakfast

Newark Catholic High School, 1 Green Wave Drive, will sponsor its second annual community prayer breakfast on Thursday, Oct. 18.

Breakfast will begin at 6:30 a.m., with the program starting at 7 a.m. and concluding by 7:45. Father Jonathan Wilson, pastor of Newark Blessed Sacrament Church, will be

the main speaker, and there will be testimonials by recent graduates and music from the Newark Catholic Ensemble.

Tickets are \$15 in advance, available at the school office or online at www.newarkcatholic.org, and \$20 at the door. For more information, call (740) 344-3594.

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Christ Child Society of Columbus Annual Red Wagon Fare Luncheon Villa Milano, 1630 Schrock Rd, Columbus

Wed., Oct. 17

Shopping starts at 10 a.m.

Luncheon features style show by Von Maur. Marketplace includes area merchants and artists, homemade sweets and treats.

Tickets \$60 per person.

All proceeds benefit projects in central Ohio.

www.christchildociety.org

OKTOBERFEST

Friday-Saturday, Oct. 5-6, 5-11 p.m.

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H A P P E N I N G S

OCTOBER

THROUGH NOV. 4, SUNDAY 40 Days for Life

7 a.m. to 7 p.m., sidewalk in front of Planned Parenthood, 3255 E. Main St., Columbus. 40 Days for Life campaign of daily vigils at central Ohio's only surgical abortion facility. Individuals, groups may sign up for hourly shifts. **614-445-8508**

5, FRIDAY

St. Cecilia Adoration of 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 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.

Catholic Men's Luncheon Club

12:15 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Catholic Men's Luncheon Club meeting, with Bishop Frederick Campbell giving his annual address to the club.

St. John Chrysostom Pirohi Sale

4 to 6 p.m., St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church, 5858 Cleveland Ave., Columbus. Homemade pirohi sale sponsored by church Ladies' Guild. Packages \$6 per dozen. Fillings include potato-cheese, sauerkraut, sweet cheese, prunes. **614-882-7578**

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.

5-6, FRIDAY-SATURDAY

Columbus St. Mary Oktoberfest

5 to 11 p.m., St. Mary School, 684 S. 3rd St., Columbus. Oktoberfest sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 5429, with German entertainment, food, beer and wine, plus desserts and snacks prepared by students. Proceeds benefit restoration of St. Mary, Mother of God Church, closed since a 2016 lightning strike. **614-445-9668**

5-7, FRIDAY-SUNDAY

Italian Festival at St. John the Baptist

St. John the Baptist Church, 720 Hamlet St., Columbus. 39th annual Columbus Italian Festival, featuring Italian food, music, games, and sports, including a bocce tournament. Theme: "Italians in Sports." Includes parade and high school band competition at 1 p.m. Sunday.

Women's Silent Retreat at St. Therese's
St. Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus. Silent retreat for women, sponsored by Catholic Laywomen's Retreat League. Father Thomas Blau, OP, will speak at the start of the retreat on "Our Blessed Mother, Mary," with the rest of the time set aside for individual and group prayer and reflection.

6, 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**

Cathedral Pilgrimage to Carey Shrine

8 a.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Bus leaves for pilgrimage to National Shrine and Basilica of Our Lady of Consolation in Carey for Mass of Reparation. Includes tour of shrine, devotions including rosary, Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, and prayers of healing with a relic of the True Cross, plus opportunity to purchase lunch in Shrine cafeteria. Cost \$20. **614-224-1295**

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.

Ohio Dominican Preview Day

9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Bishop Griffin Center, Ohio Dominican University, 1215 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Preview day for prospective students, featuring campus tours and discussion on courses, activities and financial aid. **614-251-4500**

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. **614-372-5249**

Josephinum Fall Tour Day

10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus. Fall tour day, with seminarians leading 45-minute tours of the buildings, chapels and grounds every half-hour, followed by refreshments. **614-985-2234**

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.

7, SUNDAY

St. Christopher Adult Religious Education

10 to 11:20 a.m., Library, Trinity Catholic School, 1440 Grandview Ave., Columbus. Family Rosary Day, with students leading the Living Rosary, lighting lights as its prayers are said.

Frassati Society Mass, Doughnuts

10:30 a.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Parish's Frassati Society for young adults attends Mass, followed by doughnuts in Patrick Hall. **614-224-9522**

St. Pius X Blessing of Animals

1:30 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Parish's annual blessing of animals. **614-866-2859**

Teen Suicide Prevention Presentation

2 to 3:30 p.m., Blue Room, St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Presentation on teen suicide prevention, with Paul F. Granello,

professor of counselor education at The Ohio State University. Sponsored by parish adult enrichment and youth ministry committees. **614-889-2221**

Seasons of Hope Bereavement Ministry

2 to 4 p.m., Immaculate Conception Church, 414 E. North Broadway, Columbus. Fourth of six consecutive weekly meetings of Seasons of Hope bereavement ministry, a support group sponsored by the churches of the North High Deanery for all who have suffered the loss of a loved one. Contact Michael Julian at mjulian@columbus.rr.com.

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**

8, MONDAY

Bethesda Post-Abortion Healing Ministry

6:30 p.m., support group meeting, 2744 Dover Road, Columbus (Christ the King convent, first building west of church). **614-718-0227, 614-309-2651, 614-309-0157**

Our Lady of Peace Men's Bible Study

7 p.m., Our Lady of Peace Church, 20 E. Dominion Blvd., Columbus. Bible study of Sunday's readings.

9, TUESDAY

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**

10, WEDNESDAY

Center for Dominican Studies Lecture Series

Noon to 12:30 p.m., St. Catherine of Siena Room, Erskine Hall, Ohio Dominican University, 1215 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Sister Margie Davis, OP and Amy Thomas, Dominican Sisters of Peace Associate, speak on "I Was Marginalized and You Came to Me" as part of Center for Dominican Studies series on justice. Lunch provided. **614-251-4722**

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**

Mass for Inner Healing at St. Elizabeth

7 p.m., St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. Mass for inner healing, celebrated by Columbus native Father Bill Faiella, CSC, director of St. Andre Inner Healing Ministry in Phoenix, followed by reception. Collection for the Congregation

of Holy Cross will be taken to support the St. Andre Birthing Center in Nairobi, Kenya. **614-891-0150**

11, THURSDAY

Ohio Dominican Series on Justice

3:30 p.m., Colonial Room, Sansbury Hall, Ohio Dominican University, Columbus. Dr. Imali Abala, ODU English professor; Dr. Virginia McCormack, ODU education professor; Dr. Kelsey Squire, ODU associate English professor; and Dr. Anjel Stough-Hunter, ODU assistant sociology professor, speak on "Women, the Heartbeat of Society" as part of university series of talks on justice. **614-251-4453**

Martha Giving Circle Wine and Cheese Event

5 to 7 p.m., The Catholic Foundation, 257 E. Broad St., Columbus. Wine and cheese event sponsored by The Catholic Foundation's St. Martha Giving Circle. Speaker: Catholic author and broadcaster Emily Jaminet. **614-443-8893**

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. **614-372-5249**

Theology on Tap Meeting

7 p.m., El Vaquero restaurant, 3230 Olentangy River Road, Columbus. Theology on Tap discussion and social group for young Catholics, with Beth Vanderkooi, executive director of Greater Columbus Right to Life, speaking on "Stewards, Not Owners." RSVP to cbustheologyontap@gmail.com or Columbus Theology on Tap Facebook page.

Introduction to Centering Prayer

7:30 p.m., St. Thomas More Newman Center, 64 W. Lane Ave., Columbus. Introduction to centering prayer with Father Vincent McKiernan, CSP. **614-291-4674**

13, 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.

Columbus Marian Conference

10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Jubilee Museum, 57 S. Grubb St., Columbus. Eighth annual Columbus Marian Conference and Day of Recollection, featuring a sung Latin High Mass, talks, lunch, and a chance to tour the museum. Theme: "Our Lady of Fatima and the Church's Ultimate Trial." Speaker: Father Ladis Cizik, former national director of Our Lady's Blue Army. Seating limited; RSVP by Oct. 8.

Rosary Rally in Downtown Lancaster

Noon, Gazebo at Main and Broad streets, Lancaster. Public recitation of the rosary in honor of Our Lady of Fatima.

14, SUNDAY

St. Christopher Adult Religious Education

10 to 11:20 a.m., Library, Trinity Catholic School, 1440 Grandview Ave., Columbus. Beginning of six-part study of the Old Testament, continuing into 2019, with Scripture scholar Angela Burdge.

Newman Center 'Come and See' Sunday

After 10 a.m., noon and 6 p.m. Masses, St. Thomas More Newman Center, 64 W. Lane Ave., Columbus. "Come and See" Sunday, with tours of the center at The Ohio State University for high school juniors and seniors who may be attending OSU. **614-291-4674**

Blue Jackets broadcaster shares his talent with Bishop Hartley students

By Doug Bean, *Catholic Times* Editor

As the Columbus Blue Jackets prepared to begin their 18th National Hockey League season on Thursday night in Detroit against the Red Wings, the team's radio play-by-play announcer geared up for his 10th year with the team.

Bob McElligott, whose family attends Gahanna St. Matthew Church, has become a fixture in Columbus since he moved here in 2009 after broadcasting minor league hockey and baseball in Syracuse, N.Y., and, before that, in Pennsylvania.

Blue Jackets fans have come to know his voice from the radio and his signature call ("I've got two words for you: Game over") after a Blue Jackets win. Those who attend games at Nationwide Arena watch his rink reports with analyst Jody Shelley on the video board and listen to his player interviews between periods.

What the Blue Jackets faithful might not know is that McElligott shares his time and talent at Columbus Bishop Hartley High School, broadcasting the Hawks' varsity football games and other sports when his schedule permits. McElligott, whose son Matt attends Hartley and plays baseball, also assists with a popular video production class at the high school, sharing with students his real-world expertise.

"Bob comes in as a professional broadcaster, and his passion for not only broadcasting, but also Hartley, has helped him become very close with the kids," school principal Mike Winters said. "He's teaching them behind the camera, in front of the camera, what it means to be a professional. He's very generous with his time."

The idea to broadcast Hartley sporting events resulted from conversations with football coach Brad Burchfield. Two years ago, McElligott did a football game at the end of the season. The next year, it was decided to "get into it full bore."

McElligott does play by play alongside two students who serve as analysts. Last year, he worked with two seniors. Two juniors have joined him this season. It's a hands-on opportunity for high schoolers to gain broadcasting experience and receive coaching from a 30-year veteran.

Away from the press box, McElligott goes into the classroom to help

with Hartley's video production classes when he's not tied up with the Blue Jackets. The classes, under the direction of Andrew Jahahn, are so popular that a second period was added this year. Some of their content is aired on a school YouTube channel.

"It's come a long way in two years," McElligott said.

This week, McElligott's job will take him from Detroit for Thursday night's Jackets opener back to Columbus for their home opener on Friday night against the Carolina Hurricanes.

During the hockey season, it's a frenetic pace for McElligott, but he's often reminded how blessed he is.

Working high school games is "a remembrance of where you came from. When I started doing this stuff, I was in high school press boxes in western Pennsylvania. It's a good reminder and, yes, it's fun," he said.

Much like professional athletes, broadcasters often follow a long and winding path that starts at the high school, college or minor league level and – if they're fortunate – culminates in a call-up to the majors.

That's exactly how it has gone for McElligott, who grew up in the western Pennsylvania town of Somerset.

"When you get into this, you feel like if I work hard and persevere, I'll get that payoff, a chance to get a job like that," McElligott said. "There were many days you sit in the minors wondering if it's going to happen."

McElligott spent a considerable amount of time as a youth at his hometown parish, St. Peter Catholic Church, where his father worked in maintenance. Through the sixth grade, McElligott attended the Catholic grade school there.

Msr. Samuel Tomaselli was the parish pastor then. McElligott has fond memories of the priest, who is still there today as a pastor emeritus.

"Not only did I grow up Catholic, but I worked with my dad at points in between jobs when I was doing part-time radio," he said. "We were always

in the rectory talking to the priest. He's an old-time throwback. Every sermon is 'You're the worst person in the world and you've got to pick it up.'

"I remember one time I came back and he asked me, 'What are you doing with your life?' I said, you know, broadcasting. He said, 'Why don't you dig ditches? At least at the end of the day you can see you got something done.' I said, 'Yeah, should I say the same thing to you?' He said, 'Yeah, I don't know if I get anything done, to be honest with you.'"



Blue Jackets broadcaster Bob McElligott (right) works with Bishop Hartley students in the video production class. Photo courtesy Bishop Hartley

As McElligott toiled away as a broadcaster in his 20s and 30s doing high school and minor league games, he never stopped aiming toward his goal of landing a job with a major professional franchise. But at one point, he promised his dad that if he didn't make it to the big leagues by age 40, he'd look for another line of work.

In 2009, that big break came when he landed with the Blue Jackets – at age 40. Unfortunately, he didn't get to share the good news with his father, who had passed away by then.

"No lie, 40th birthday, I got this job. That day," McElligott said.

"It's the best job in the world. You can only appreciate that if you've made the climb."

With the Blue Jackets, McElligott has witnessed a transformation from one of the NHL's worst franchises to a team on the rise. Columbus has reached the playoffs in each of the past two seasons and is positioned for a third straight appearance in 2018-19.

The Blue Jackets' next hurdle is to

win a postseason series for the first time. Last year, Columbus took a 2-0 lead in its first-round matchup with the Washington Capitals, but lost four straight and was eliminated by the eventual Stanley Cup champion.

There's lots of optimism this season. A core nucleus of young talent returns with a year of experience, and former Boston Bruins center Riley Nash is a key offseason free-agent acquisition.

"I think they improved," McElligott said. "If the question is whether they have enough to win the Stanley Cup right now, probably not. But that is every team at this time of the year because every team that's in contention is going to make a deal or two during the year at the deadline to fortify themselves."

There are some concerns. All-star defenseman Seth Jones is out four to six weeks with a knee injury and defenseman Ryan Murray is on injured reserve.

Meanwhile, two of the team's best players, winger Artemi Panarin and goaltender Sergei

Bobrovsky, enter the last year of their contracts. If they aren't traded or sign new deals, both could exit next summer as free agents.

"The Bobrovsky-Panarin situation is headline news," McElligott said, "but the fact of the matter is they're both here and they're both playing this year, and they're both going to play hard. ... I don't think it affects the team as far as the players in the room. I know that people find that hard to believe. ..."

"I know it affects the fans and the community. I know people here are very sensitive and they're like, 'What's wrong with us?' Nothing ... nothing. You can't look at it that way."

The status of the two stars does create a sense of urgency.

"Here's the deal. If Panarin and Bobrovsky are going to walk, you've got to win the whole thing now," McElligott said. "We'll see. They expect to (win) now. That's the biggest difference with (coach) John Tortorella. If we're not in the playoffs, we're devastated. ... The expectations are extremely high."

Gosnell movie opens nationwide on October 12

About 160 people gathered on Tuesday, Sept. 25 at the Grove City AMC theater for a special “sneak peek” at the movie *Gosnell: The Trial of America’s Biggest Serial Killer*, sponsored by Greater Columbus Right to Life (GCRTL) and Citizens for Community Values.

Besides getting the opportunity to see the movie before its nationwide opening on Friday, Oct. 12, those in attendance heard from its producer, Ann McElhinney.

The movie tells of how notorious abortion provider Kermit Gosnell’s Philadelphia abortion clinic was raided by police, the FBI, and federal drug enforcement agents who had suspected it was a narcotics “pill mill.” Once inside, investigators were shocked at what they found – a filthy mess of human and animal excrement, dirty equipment, and fetal remains. The clinic was able to operate because of years of disregard by Pennsylvania state inspectors. The film tells the story of the investigation of the clinic through the eyes of a local narcotics agent and a prosecutor, and of Gosnell’s trial.

The movie, while not graphic in the sense that one might expect, did not shy away from showing the horror of

what investigators experienced. Rather than relying on portraying images of the youngest victims, it successfully used the actors’ emotions to relay the serious heartbreak of the situation. The result resonated with the crowd.



A film about abortion provider Kermit Gosnell had a sneak preview in Grove City. Photo/GCRTL

“This is a very powerful movie. I know the Gosnell story, but seeing it dramatized and seeing the power of the truth on the screen – I would highly

recommend it to everyone,” said Peggy Hartshorn, chairman of the Board of Heartbeat International and a member of Columbus St. Mary, Mother of God Church.

Mark and Elizabeth Ficocelli, parishioners at Reynoldsburg St. Pius X, also were moved by the film. “I was amazed by this movie. It was so well done and so well presented,” Mark said. Elizabeth shared his sentiment, saying, “It touches your heart, it is very convincing, and I would have a hard time believing that someone could watch it and not come away with a changed heart on the subject of abortion.”

McElhinney said that although she had started looking at the story as a reporter and writer, she had a change of heart on abortion while producing the screenplay. “I was always, well, let’s say neutral on the subject of abortion, which basically meant that I was in favor of it. But after writing the book and directing the film, I had a personal change of heart,” she said.

If you missed the preview, it is not too late. *Gosnell: The Story of America’s Biggest Serial Killer* will open in theaters across the nation on Oct. 12.

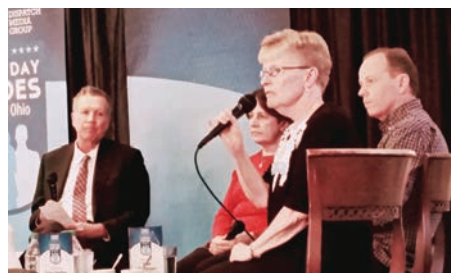
To see where it is playing in your area, visit www.gosnellmovie.com. If there is not a local theater screening the movie, please consider calling the theater and requesting that it be shown. Although it is a factual portrayal of the investigation and trial of Gosnell, it is running into difficulties with distribution and finding theaters willing to show the film.

GCRTL executive director Beth Vanderkooi said, “We have already seen stories – National Public Radio refusing to accept airtime sponsorship to promote the film if it referred to ‘abortion,’ and a showing in Texas being canceled at the demand of Planned Parenthood.

“There is a national attempt to keep this out of theaters because those with a pro-abortion agenda know that if this movie is picked up by 600 theaters nationwide by October, it also will run on Netflix, where millions of people around the world will hear about the atrocities of this industry and the political and media cover-up it enjoys,” Vanderkooi said. So call your local theater – especially a chain theater – ask that they show the movie, and then take a friend or two and go watch it. You will not regret it.”

Sister Nadine Buchanan recognized

In his April 2018 apostolic exhortation *Gaudete et Exsultate*, Pope Francis talked about the “saints next door” – the unrecognized and unsung people who work every day to help their neighbors and better their communities.



Sister Nadine Buchanan, OP, answers the question, “What drives your ministry?” while Gov. John Kasich and fellow finalists Rachael Muha and Brad Hutchinson look on.

Photo courtesy Dominican Sisters of Peace

Twenty-five “saints next door” were honored earlier this month as “Everyday Heroes” by the Dispatch Media Group of Columbus. One of them was Sister Nadine Buchanan, OP, a Dominican Sister of Peace who lives at the order’s Columbus Motherhouse.

“Everyday Heroes is born out of the spark of an idea to counter in some measure the divisive times in which we live,” said Ray Paprocki, publisher and general manager of Dispatch Mag-

azines. “These acts of grace and kindness are powerful and inspiring. We’re honored to share them with the community, with the hope they motivate us all to do even more to make a difference.”

The Heroes were featured in a special magazine section included in issues of *The Columbus Dispatch*.

Sister Nadine’s ministry was chosen from more than 100 nominations. Twenty semi-finalists were recognized; Sister Nadine was one of five finalists featured in the magazine and invited to meet with Gov. John Kasich at a luncheon. “This is where the future is,” Kasich said during a discussion with the five finalists. “No one is coming in on a white horse to solve our problems. It is on you and I.”



HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

COVERAGE ON AM 820

CCL FOOTBALL COVERAGE BEGINS AT 6:00 PM ON AM 820

Doug Lessells, Randy Rhinehart, Ryan Baker, and Larry Wolf bring you all the CCL action!



CENTRAL CATHOLIC LEAGUE GAME-OF-THE-WEEK

FRIDAY	AUGUST 24	DUBLIN SCIOTO AT ST. CHARLES
FRIDAY	AUGUST 31	BISHOP WATTERSON AT OLENTANGY ORANGE
FRIDAY	SEPTEMBER 7	BISHOP READY AT BISHOP HARTLEY
FRIDAY	SEPTEMBER 14	CHILLICOTHE AT BISHOP HARTLEY
FRIDAY	SEPTEMBER 21	NEWARK CATHOLIC AT LICKING HEIGHTS
FRIDAY	SEPTEMBER 28	ST CHARLES AT ST. FRANCIS DESALES
FRIDAY	OCTOBER 5	ACADEMY V BISHOP READY
FRIDAY	OCTOBER 12	BISHOP HARTLEY AT ST. FRANCIS DESALES
FRIDAY	OCTOBER 19	WHITEHALL V BISHOP READY
FRIDAY	OCTOBER 26	ST. FRANCIS DESALES AT BISHOP WATTERSON

BUILDING A CULTURE OF LIFE CONFERENCE

RESPECT LIFE, BIOETHICS, AND LEADERSHIP

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2018 • 9 A.M.-3 P.M.

Join us for an extraordinary event featuring dynamic speakers and offering resources to equip you to build a culture of life.

FEATURED TOPICS:

- Foundation of Pro-Life Action
- Lost in the Labyrinth: Current State of Assisted Reproductive Technologies
- Advocating for Children with Disabilities
- Legislative Update
- End of Life Discussions and Directives
- Answering the Hard Questions - Panel

List of speakers and times on registration website.

LOCATION:

St. John Neumann Church
9633 E. State Route 37
Sunbury, Ohio 43074

REGISTRATION:

\$25 - Includes Lunch

Scholarships are available for those who wish to attend but are prohibited by financial circumstances.

Register at <https://bclc2018.eventbrite.com> or call 614-241-2540.

Registration Deadline is October 16.

PRESENTED BY:

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Mail-in Registration Form - Building a Culture of Life Conference

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____
 Email Address: _____
 Phone Number: _____ Church Name: _____
 Organization & Role (if applicable): _____

Lunch Choice (comes with an appropriate side) - CIRCLE ONE

- Ham and Cheese • Life Salad (gluten free, vegetarian) • Turkey and Cheese
- Hummus Vegetable Wrap (vegan)

Registration: \$25 **Registration Deadline:** October 16.

Send Check Payable to: Office for Social Concerns
 c/o Building a Culture of Life Conference 2018
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