Fish Fry Guide:
It’s time for the annual Fish Fry Guide, Pages 9-12

DeSales quintus:
The Whalen quintuplets will be graduating this spring from Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School, Page 8

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‘PUTTING ON THE ARMOR OF GOD’ AT MEN’S CONFERENCE
Pages 3, 18-20
Editor's reflections by Doug Bean

**Lenten sacrifice will help kids take NYC trip**

With the start of Lent less than a week away, Catholics’ thoughts turn to prayer, penance and sacrifice.

“If anyone needs a worthy cause for almsgiving, consider the 19 seventh- and eighth-graders at Sts. Peter and Paul School in Wellston, Ohio.

The students are trying to raise funds for a biennial trip. In past years, the school has sent the seventh- and eighth-graders to Washington. This year, they plan to go to New York City with fellow Catholic students from Chillicothe Bishop Flaget School.

But there’s a problem. A big one. They still need a sizable chunk of money to offset the cost of the trip. Time is running out.

More than 80 percent of parish members in Jackson County have contributed something to the fund. The hard-working families in southern Ohio have no more to give.

Most of the children at the school – the next-closest Catholic school is 45 miles away – receive scholarships to attend Sts. Peter and Paul, and so the need is real.

Like most parents whose children go to Catholic schools, they sacrifice so much to give their kids a faith-based education. In this part of the state, children come to the school from five counties – Jackson, Vinton, Gallia, Hocking and Meigs – and that requires additional sacrifice.

“This is really a once-in-a-lifetime chance for all but maybe two to four of the kids to go to New York,” Sts. Peter and Paul School principal Kristyl Fulton said. “They’ve been working hard to raise funds, but it’s hard to get money in an impoverished area. Families don’t have a lot of money to spare.”

From April 23 to 27, the seventh- and eighth-graders plan to visit the 9/11 memorial, the Empire State Building and the Museum of Modern Art; attend Mass at St. Patrick’s Cathedral; and see the musical *King Kong*.

“Students will experience riding the subway – something most folks from our area will never have the opportunity to do,” Fulton said. “We are also hoping to get to NYC early enough to be there for the morning *Today* show."

The students have raised some money by selling baked goods, they’ll bring in a few dollars from helping at parish fish fries, and the classrooms are putting together gift baskets for an auction. There’s also some money from a history grant that will be used. But despite the young people’s hard work, there still will be a deficit.

“I am afraid that we are going to fall short,” Fulton said. “If we don’t raise the money, we simply can’t go.”

If you’ve read this far and are wondering how to help, there’s an easy way. A Pot of Gold reverse raffle will be there for the morning *Today* show.

Kristyl Fulton said. “They’ve been raising funds for a biennial trip. In past years, families didn’t have the opportunity to do so. With final remarks from Pope Francis.

The beginning of Lent also means it’s fish fry season. This week’s issue of *The Catholic Times* includes our annual special section with a diocesan-wide listing of fish fries that were provided to *The Times* and an interesting story on what goes into making fish fries successful.

Schools, parishes and organizations benefit from the proceeds, and patronizing a fish fry at your church or nearby serves the dual purpose of raising money for worthy causes and practicing abstinence on no-meat Fridays during Lent. The food is fantastic, and, let’s be honest, it’s always nice when someone else cooks.

May the start of the Lenten season be a time of purification for souls and for the Catholic Church throughout the world, but particularly in the United States.

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**Head of U.S. bishops after Vatican abuse summit pledges ‘unyielding vigilance’**

**Catholic News Agency**

WASHINGTON – Cardinal Daniel DiNardo, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, has promised “unyielding vigilance” and an intensification of the Dallas charter following the Vatican summit on the sexual abuse of minors.

“We owe survivors an unyielding vigilance that we may never fail them again,” DiNardo said. “How then to bind the wounds? Intensify the Dallas charter.”

The cardinal, who heads the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, released a statement Feb. 24 at the conclusion of a four-day Vatican summit that brought together heads of bishops’ conferences from around the world to discuss sexual abuse and child protection.

The summit discussed responsibility, transparency and accountability, with video testimonies from sex abuse victims, working group discussions, a penitential liturgy, and a closing Mass with final remarks from Pope Francis.

“These have been challenging, fruitful days,” DiNardo said in his statement. “The witness of survivors revealed for us, again, the deep wound in the Body of Christ. Listening to their testimonies transforms your heart. I saw that in the faces of my brother bishops.”

During the gathering, Pope Francis called for “concrete and effective measures” and presenters spoke about “a code of conduct for bishops, the need to establish specific protocols for handling accusations against bishops, user-friendly-

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See ABUSE SUMMIT, Page 4
3,000 men receive faith-based ‘basic training’ at men’s conference

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

About 3,000 men prepared themselves at this past weekend’s diocesan Catholic Men’s Conference to battle evil, receiving “basic training” from three outstanding speakers.

“Put on the whole armor of God” (Ephesians 6:11) was the theme of the event on Saturday, Feb. 23 in Kasich Hall at the Ohio Expo Center (state fairgrounds), and references to spiritual warfare were frequent in talks by Jesse Romero, Bishop Donald Hying of Gary, Indiana, and Dr. Tim Gray. Organizers say the conference, now in its 22nd year, is the nation’s largest, longest-running event of its type.

Romero, a former Los Angeles County sheriff’s officer, three-time World Police Olympics boxing champion and former U.S. middleweight kickboxing champion, frequently used terms from his law enforcement and martial arts backgrounds and was in constant motion, speaking in rapid-fire manner and occasionally using a boxing move to make a point.

He described himself as a watch commander at morning roll call, telling officers of the problems they would have to deal with on the streets with the help of a “911 Jesus.” He also talked about “UFC” and “MMA” Catholics. In this case, those initials describe “ultimate faithful Catholics” and “Mother Mary’s army” rather than the Ultimate Fighting Championship and mixed martial arts.

“As Catholics, we were born to be part of Team Jesus, but too many Catholic men are sitting on the sidelines,” Romero said. “St. Paul, in his letter to the Ephesians, lets us know that life is a battle. Pope Leo XIII said Christians are made for combat.”

Concerning the revelations of clerical sex abuse that have affected the Catholic Church at all levels, he said, “We are fighting for the soul of the church. The demons of sexual perversion have infected the church at the highest levels. This is not surprising, because Satan prefers to go after those of the highest rank.

“Remember, only one thing will get you into heaven – being in a state of grace,” he said. “I enjoy going to the shooting range, I love to work out and talk politics, but none of this is going to save my soul. Only living for Jesus will do it. A life devoted to living out his message is contagious, it’s radioactive. We want to be radioactive Christians.”

He quoted several Scripture passages on the theme of friendship with Jesus and said, “If you die a friend of God, you will go to heaven. You may have to pass through purgatory to get there, but you’ll know you’re on the way, and you will get in. But if you die an enemy of God, you’re a loser. It doesn’t matter what you have. Everything is an absolute waste without God. Life is short, death is for sure, sin is the problem and Jesus is the cure.”

Referring to the conference theme, Romero said, “Living in a state of grace is putting on the armor of God. Being cloaked in sanctifying grace means you have nothing to fear, and the devil knows it. He’s not afraid of a UFC fighter, he’s not afraid of 20-inch biceps, but he’s afraid of ultimate faithful Catholics. St. Therese of Lisieux said, ‘A soul in a state of grace has nothing to fear from demons.’ That’s because demons are cowards.”

Romero said that when young boxers in east Los Angeles asked him to train them, he required them to come to the gym daily for three months, watching other fighters and spending 90 minutes looking at themselves in a mirror while practicing the basics of stance, jabbing and punching. “The best fighters are those that learn and do the basics well,” he said. “UFC and MMA Catholics have to go back to the basics and stay there.

“The Catholic faith is not complicated,” he said, shuffling his feet and jabbing the air as he described “the Catholic one-two punch” – frequent confession and reception of the Eucharist. He quoted Pope St. John Paul II, St. Padre Pio and Venerable Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen as recommending that people receive the sacrament of reconciliation at least once a month.

“Don’t let anyone get in the way of your going to Mass every Sunday and on holy days of obligation at the minimum, and more if possible,” he said. “‘You’re on Jesus’ installment plan – one Eucharist at a time. The devil fears the blood of Jesus because it gives eternal life. The Mass is Jesus’ blood transfusion to you. We’re all cancer patients, and only the blood of Jesus can save us.

“This is why the devil wants to destroy the Catholic Church. He doesn’t fear other religions; he manipulates them. But the Catholic Church is the narrow path that gets you to heaven.”

Romero also said weekly Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is a natural follow-up to the “one-two punch.”

“Adoration started coming back with John Paul II, and it’s making a big difference in the church,” he said. Romero said priests who had served in Iraq and Afghanistan told him in separate conversations that in the midst of war, Adoration chapels in combat zones in those places were untouched.

He also said that in Juarez, Mexico, after 2,750 people were killed there by drug cartels in 2009, all the Catholic churches in that city set up Adoration chapels to pray for an end to drug violence.

See CONFERENCE, Page 18
Faith in Action

The Golden Rule isn’t about gold!

I was taught at a very young age to play nicely with your little sister, to put the puppy gently, and to be careful, don’t break your new toy.

In our home growing up, everything had a value and there was a definite hierarchy. Here is a good (and I wish only a one-time) example. There was a loud crash in the living room. Pappy came running. He first asked if anyone had been cut by the broken lamp glass. No, we were OK. He also may have mentioned how many times we had been told not to play basketball in the living room (that’s a little fuzzy). Then he added that things could be replaced, but children could not. While he was glad we weren’t hurt, he also let us know that there would be consequences as soon as he and mom decided that there would be consequences (and I wish only a one-time) exam-

sonhood over a consumer identity that contributes to the misery of many: “Unless all the considerable body of resources and potential at (people’s) disposal is guided by a moral understanding and by an orientation toward the true good of the human race, it easily turns against (these people) to oppress (them).” One thing I have learned from working with Catholic Relief Services is that the actual cost of the inexpensive items we buy from overseas usually is paid for by people who work for pennies in less than ideal conditions.

I confess that I used to be a hunter-gatherer! Now that I am happily running toward my “golden years,” I am determined to reduce the clutter and muddle that has my home bulging at the seams. I started with the items I thought would be most useful to others – kitchen things, clothes, jigsaw puzzles, and yarn (a major concession). I’m currently eliminating “cool stuff” that’s fun to have but not functional. There is a sense of freedom with letting go and with sharing.

In Luke 3:11, Jesus teaches, “Whoever has two tunics should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise.” The gifts of Creation are to be shared with open hands and hearts, not anxiously consumed, not hoarded, not seen as “mine” but as “ours.”

Our primary identity is that of being a child of a loving God, and we are meant to be good stewards of Creation. We are called to share the necessities of a dignified life with all our sisters and brothers in our one global, human family. It’s a struggle to turn from consumerism to “living simply so others might simply live.” Been there! Doing that!

I pray that this year’s Lent is a perfect time to take stock of how we apply the Golden Rule as consumers and as children of God. May your Lent be graced and transformative!

Erin Cordle is associate director for the diocesan Office for Social Concerns.
The ‘yes’ from Mary’s hands

FINDING FAITH IN EVERYDAY LIFE
Sarah Reinhard

Their hands were intertwined, mother and daughter. They hadn’t seen each other for months, though they talked frequently on the phone, and there was something in the twisting of their fingers, in the contrast between younger and older, that told the story of their love for one another.

Hands tell a lot about a person. Infants curl their fists and sleep through their days as we admire all ten of their wrinkled digits. Then, all too fast, they grow into the grasping, reaching hands of the toddler, and then the grimy, busy hands of a preschooler.

Later they become the prying hands of the older child, experimenting, building, doing. Next are the sweaty palms of a teenager, the bitten nails of the adult.

These youthful hands will, over time, host a battleground of scars and scabs, eventually becoming home to wrinkles and age spots. They will never stop moving, seeking, helping, though their purpose will transform.

In the hands of the people around me, I see the story of life’s journey. When my 80-plus-year-old grandmother would delight in holding my toddler’s hands, I learned a lesson in beauty. Few things are as beautiful as two hands woven together. There’s the feel of another’s fingers warming your own, and yet the contrast between their hands’ work and your own.

Your hands tell where you’ve been, the battles you’ve fought, the work you’ve done. What kind of story do your hands tell?

I wonder what Mary’s hands looked like. In all the representations I’ve seen, her hands are just a minor part, an appendage that’s necessary to make her complete, but never the focus. They are, without fail, perfect hands, but I’ve never seen an image of Mary that focuses on her hands.

Mary would have worked with her hands. She didn’t have a washing machine, so those loads of laundry had to be scrubbed…by hand. In fact, there was no running water in her house, so she had to make a trip to the river. How did she do dishes? How did she get drinking water? How much hard labor did her hands see in the chores of her everyday life?

Her hands wouldn’t have looked anything like mine. I’m sure her nails weren’t long, though it wouldn’t have been because she was biting them, as I do, but because it wouldn’t have been practical for the work she had to do.

In Mary, if I look through the lens of camaraderie and take some poetic license, I can be inspired in my everyday life. John Paul II credited the “fullness of divine grace” in Mary with nurturing in her “all the natural abilities of woman.”

Mary said “yes” to social stigma: we’re told in the Protoevangelium of James that she had been promised as a virgin in the Temple and that her pregnancy caused great scandal, both for her and for Joseph, who was to be her protector by marrying her (but who was not supposed to defile her virginity!).

She said “yes” to suffering and hardship: her baby was born in a cave and then, months later, she had to flee from the comfort of her home, baby in tow, to Egypt.

She said “yes” to God’s plan, though she couldn’t have known what it held: that innocent man-child of hers was crucified, but then, against all understanding, He rose from the dead.

Her cooperation with God – her saying “yes” without reserve – allowed the Incarnation to take place, which allowed the Resurrection to take place.

In Mary, we see humble service at its best. In her hands, we can glimpse the beauty that is beyond what the world offers us.

Her hands spell “yes” to each of us, if we will only take them and let them guide us to her Son.

Sarah Reinhard is a Catholic wife, mom and coffee addict from central Ohio. She’s online at SnoringScholar.com.
Q In a recent column, you quoted Luke 24:39. (“Look at my hands and feet, that it is I myself. Touch me and see, because a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you can see I have.”) Are we to believe from this that Our Lord is confirming the existence of ghosts? (Virginia Beach, Virginia)

A I am aware of no scriptural scholar who would say that this statement of Jesus confirms that there are, in fact, ghosts. On the other hand, Jesus did not debunk the notion when given the chance. Which is pretty much where the Catholic Church stands on the matter of ghosts: There is no settled doctrinal teaching with respect to their existence, no provision in conciliar teaching or canon law that addresses it.

What the church does affirm is that God has from time to time permitted departed souls to commune with people on earth for their betterment — but the exact nature of that communication (whether by an intellectual sharing or a physical manifestation) has not been defined theologically.

Clearly, there is no intrinsic contradiction between the existence of “ghosts” and Catholic theology, and Thomas Aquinas did assert in the supplement to his Summa Theologiae that “according to the disposition of divine providence, separated souls sometimes come forth from their abode and appear to men.”

What the church does reject is any attempt proactively to summon the dead. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states: “All forms of divination are to be rejected: recourse to Satan or demons, conjuring up the dead or other practices falsely supposed to ‘unveil’ the future” (No. 2116).

Q A good Protestant friend has asked me to be a witness at the marriage of her nephew in a Protestant church. Is a Catholic allowed to participate, taking a major role, in formal rites and rituals of non-Catholic churches? (City or origin withheld)

A I am assuming — because you don’t say otherwise — that your friend’s nephew is not a Catholic and that neither is the woman he’s going to marry. In that case, by all means you are free to serve as an official witness at their wedding.

This situation is addressed specifically in Principles and Norms on Ecumenism, issued by the Vatican in 1993. That document states: “Members of other churches or ecclesial communities may be witnesses at the celebration of marriage in a Catholic church. Catholics may also be witnesses at marriages which are celebrated in other churches or ecclesial communities” (No. 136).

Not only is your participation permissible, it is laudable because it demonstrates a Catholic’s belief in the validity of that marriage and prayers for its success.

If, however, either the groom or the bride is Catholic, the answer becomes more complex. It may be that such a couple has received permission from the Catholic Church to marry in a non-Catholic ceremony. (If, for example, the groom is Catholic and the bride Protestant, permission is often granted for the wedding to be held in the bride’s church.)

But if, on the other hand, one of the spouses-to-be is Catholic and no such permission has been secured, my answer would change. The question then becomes not so much a legal one, but theological and pastoral. By your participation, you could well be giving scandal by signifying that you approve of such a marriage (which would not be a valid marriage in the Catholic Church’s eyes.)

Your better course would be to sit down with your friend’s nephew, tell him with kindness and honesty the reason for your reluctance to participate and encourage him to have the marriage approved by the Catholic Church — ideally, before the Protestant ceremony takes place.

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

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ed Sacrament and confessions; April 2, “Mission of the Church,” with a Mass; and April 3, “Living as Disciples,” followed by a parish social.

Rose Sweet to speak at mission

Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, 3730 Broadway, will offer a parish mission from 7 to 9 p.m. Monday to Wednesday, March 11 to 13, with Catholic speaker and author Rose Sweet as the presenter.

Sweet’s topic will be “Adventure Into the Interior Life: Uncovering the Secrets of Saints and Mystics.”

“Everyone wants to be happy … but the quest for happiness can only succeed when we dare to enter into the interior life,” Sweet said.

“From the rich traditions of St. John of the Cross and Teresa of Avila, this event introduces the interior life and also includes discussion of the three false joys, how to let God love you first, the four rules of relationship, the four marks of true love, the seven stages of romance and the secrets of the mystical marriage.”

For more information, visit https://rosesweet.com/about-rose or contact Karen Cook at (614) 871-5224 or kcook@ourladyofperpetualhelp.net.

Needles to speak to YCP group

Cleveland business executive and philanthropist Tim Needles will be the featured speaker at the monthly meeting of the diocesan Young Catholic Professionals group on Wednesday, March 20 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare Church, 7179 Avery Road.

Needles is president and chief executive officer of Onix Networking Corp., a leading cloud solutions provider, based in the Cleveland suburb of Lakewood. Onix has elevated businesses to the next level of productivity, collaboration, efficiency and success since 1992.

In 2014, Needles and his wife, Diane, established Onix Outreach, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing essential goods and services to underserved people and families in northeast Ohio.

Free drinks and appetizers will be available at the event, which will be preceded by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 6 to 7 p.m. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available during the event.

The Young Catholic Professionals group provides business networking opportunities for Catholics in their 20s and 30s in the Columbus area while also offering them a chance to create a citywide Catholic young adult community.

For more information, contact Lauren Manson at (614) 795-7514 or go to www.ycpcolumbus.org.

Honor choir to present 11th annual concert

The Diocesan Catholic Schools Honor Choir will present its 11th annual concert, titled “Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus,” at 6:30 p.m. Monday, April 8 at Sunbury St. John Neumann Church, 9633 East State Route 37. Each year, students from all diocesan schools are invited to participate in this one-day event, led since 2008 by artistic director and clinician Sheila Cafmeyer. More than 220 singers from 12 schools will perform, representing diocesan grade schools and Ohio Dominican University.

In addition to the honor choir performance, individual selections will be performed by the youth choirs of Columbus St. Catharine, Lancaster St. Mary and Wellston Sts. Peter and Paul schools and the ODU choir. To order a copy of this year’s performance, go to http://soundwaves.org and search “Diocese of Columbus.”

This event was developed by diocesan music teachers as an effort to give their singers an opportunity to perform challenging music in a large ensemble setting. Singers prepare the music under the guidance of their music teachers and assemble for one afternoon rehearsal and evening performance.
‘Exceptions’ and the undermining of the moral law

Whenever we make small exceptions to universal moral rules, we shouldn’t be surprised that the rules themselves can be quickly undermined. Establishing an “exception” in one case makes people think they’re due an exemption for their case as well. Certain norms of moral behavior, however, do not admit of any exceptions, and we risk undermining morality altogether if we don’t recognize them. Moral norms governing the protection of human life are one such example.

A recent and lengthy article in The Guardian took a look at the practice of euthanasia in the Netherlands. It led off with this provocative title: “Death of euthanasia in the Netherlands. It led the Guardian to take a look at the practice.”

Family Soup Kitchen.

March 3, 2019 Catholic Times

The article points out that, in the past few years a small but influential group of academics and jurists have raised the alarm over what is generally referred to, a little archly, as the ‘slippery slope’ – the idea that a measure introduced to provide relief to late-stage cancer patients has expanded to include people who might otherwise live for many years, from sufferers of diseases such as muscular dystrophy to sexagenarians with dementia and even mentally ill young people.”

The logic behind these concerns is clear. If we are willing to make an exception to the rule that direct killing of an innocent human being is always wrong, then it only becomes a matter of “haggling over the price.” If killing by euthanasia can be allowed for a deeply emotional reason, it certainly can be allowed for other reasons, too, and for nearly any reason, making it difficult, if not impossible, to put the cat back into the proverbial “moral bag.”

The almost instantaneous deployment of abortion on demand around the world several decades ago relied on very similar logic: first, grant a single exception, and in time virtually any instance begins to appear plausible and defensible. That exception, of course, was rape. By playing on the tragedy of sexual assault, abortion advocates managed to direct attention and blame toward the child, an innocent bystander, turning him or her, almost more than the rapist, into the culprit. After the child had been successfully targeted in situations of rape, he or she became generally targetable in other situations as well.

When it comes to abortion, the state of Louisiana in past years required some of the most comprehensive reporting in the U.S., and their detailed records are a helpful resource for determining how frequent abortions for rape really are. Abortionists were required to fill out a form entitled “Report of Induced Termination of Pregnancy” (Form #PHS 16-ab) for every abortion. The form stated at the top: “Failure to complete and file this form is a crime.” Item 9d on the form was entitled “Reason for Pregnancy Termination.” Statistics compiled from these forms over a 14-year period reveal the reasons for 115,243 abortions in Louisiana during that time:

**Reasons for Abortion in Louisiana between 1975 and 1988**

- Mother’s mental health 114,231 (99.12 percent)
- Mother’s physical health 863 (0.75 percent)
- Fetal deformity 103 (0.09 percent)
- Rape or incest 46 (0.04 percent)

These data confirm other calculations indicating that, on average, about 550 women per year in the U.S. become pregnant as a result of rape. Assuming they all ended in abortion, this means that an average of 0.04 percent (one twenty-fifth of one percent) of all abortions have been performed for rape – or only one out of every 2,500! Yet for every one of the more than 50 nations that have abortion on demand around the world, the initial step taken by pro-abortion forces was intense lobbying for abortion in the so-called “hard cases” – especially rape and incest. Once abortion advocates secured the availability of abortion for the “hard cases,” they went on to argue for abortion in any situation.

Even if one granted, for the sake of argument, that rape justified a mother’s decision to end her child’s life, could that ever justify the other abortions that occur for non-rape related reasons? It is duplicitious to justify 2,499 deaths from the one assault, unjust and traumatic as it may have been. By granting the exception, the moral rule has been, in effect, eliminated, and the doors have been thrown open to the practice of abortion for any reason. Encouraging exceptions is the entry point into a broader repudiation of our moral duties toward each other, the first of which is the duty to respect the inviolability of each other’s life.

**Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, PhD, earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did postdoctoral work at Harvard. He is the director of education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See www.ncbcenter.org.**

**LOCAL NEWS, continued from Page 6**

“IT IS such a joy for me to have the opportunity, year after year, to work with the young singers of our diocese,” Cafmeyer said. “Our music teachers do the hard work of teaching the music to their select singers while juggling musicals, Masses, lesson plans and classes. Under the clear guidance of the Holy Spirit, each performance promises to bless all participants and our audience.”

Sacred music of all styles will be performed during the concert to demonstrate our unity and Catholic heritage through music. A free-will offering will be collected for the Holy Family Soup Kitchen.

**Ohio Dominican to host summer scholars program**

High school students graduating in 2020, 2021 or 2022 are invited to attend Ohio Dominican University’s summer scholars program from Monday to Friday, July 8 to 12. The program consists of four daily classes, which include classroom discussions, out-of-classroom labs, and hands-on activities. Participants can choose one of two tracks to match their interests.

The camp costs $150 per student for the daytime-only option or $350 for the overnight option. Participants will not receive college credit. Registration is limited to 50 respondents.

ODU faculty will teach everyday logic; the medieval world of Harry Potter; introduction to app development; Ohio’s environment – hands-on; psychological detectives; criminal minds; and college readiness.

For more information, visit ohioeconomic.com/SummerScholars, email admissions@ohiodominican.edu or call (614) 251-4500.

**St. Christopher parishioners trained in security awareness**

Fred Bowditch, a consultant for the Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security Office, conducted security awareness training at Columbus St. Christopher Church.

The training focused on being aware of one’s surroundings and on the “run-hide-fight” approach as a response to an active aggressor event. He showed a video, discussed various scenarios, reminded his listeners of the directive “If you see something, say something,” and encouraged them to seek assistance and collaboration with law enforcement agencies. Before the training, Bowditch conducted a security assessment of the church and the adjacent Trinity Elementary School to help the parish enhance its security posture.
Quints soon to be grads from DeSales

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

The diocese’s Catholic high schools take great pride in having students who represent the third and even fourth generation of a family attending a particular institution since the current system of consolidated high schools began in the mid-1950s.

The Whalens of Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School are one such family. This June 1, a diploma will be presented to the 33rd and 34th family members to graduate from the school … and the 35th … and the 36th … and the 37th!

Gina Whalen gave birth to quintuplets in 2000 – Ben, Mary Kate, Grace, Alex, and Emma – and they soon will be the first quintuplets to graduate from the school … and they soon will be the first set of five siblings to graduate from the diocese’s current 11 high schools.

Their graduation will occur a little more than a month after their 19th birthday on April 22, which also will be the 24th wedding anniversary of their parents and the 48th birthday of their father, Mike Whalen. The quints have one sister, Lindsey, who became 10 years old on Feb. 6. Mike continues to be employed at Worthington Industries, where he worked at the time because we see each other every day,” Ben said.

“When it’s all you’ve known, you can’t imagine anything else,” Mary Kate added.

“It’s interesting to see how other families work, how older and younger siblings get along,” she said. “We have some of that, too, with Lindsey,” who was having a birthday party with friends when The Catholic Times visited the Whalens. “We make sure she has her own special times, and she does have five brothers and sisters to turn to and to watch out for her.”

“We’ve always been close. My siblings are my four best friends,” Ben said, prompting a group “awww” from his brother and sisters. “We found together is at DeSales soccer matches, with the two brothers as players and the three sisters as cheerleaders. Both brothers also belong to the school’s fishing club. Alex is a hockey player and Spanish Club member, and Ben plays volleyball and belongs to the business, engineering and math clubs.

Emma, Grace and Mary Kate all belong to the Math Club, the Ronald McDonald House Charity Baking Club and Go Red for Women, which works to build awareness of heart disease and stroke and to encourage healthful lifestyle choices. Emma and Grace both are student ambassadors and take part in the Corral for the Kids Club, which works with the childhood cancer unit of Nationwide Children’s Hospital. The sisters also are involved in several clubs individually.

The family attends the Church of the Resurrection in New Albany, where all three sisters have taught kindergarten classes for the parish religious education program. All the siblings have taken part in young people’s retreat weekends, with Mary Kate and Emma also attending the diocese’s annual weeklong Gospel Road service project in southern Ohio and Emma assisting with the parish’s Blest Week Ever, a week in the summer during which participants serve in homeless shelters, soup kitchens, food pantries, inner-city day camps and other loca-
Fridays, 3/8-4/12, 5-7 p.m.
6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus
ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH

Fridays, 3/8-4/12, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 5-7:30 p.m.
(Ministry Center)
6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, New Albany
CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

Fridays, 3/8-4/12, 5-8 p.m.
5750 N. High St., Worthington

Meatless Pasta Dinners
1420 Grandview Ave., Grandview Heights
ST. CHRISTOPHER CHURCH

Stations of the Cross, 7 p.m.
Tuesdays, 3/12-4/9, 6 p.m.
Lenten Soup Suppers
7179 Avery Road, Dublin
Fridays, 3/8-4/12, 4:30-7:30 p.m.
4475 Dublin Road, Hilliard (in school)
ST. BRENDAN CHURCH

Stations of the Cross, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, 3/22, 4-7 p.m.
1899 McCoy Road, Upper Arlington
ST. LEONARD CHURCH

Stations of the Cross, 7 p.m.
ST. PATRICK CHURCH

Stations of the Cross, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, 3/22, 5-7:30 p.m.
1835 Dover-Zoar Road, Bolivar
CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

Stations of the Cross, 7 p.m.
ST. PAUL CHURCH

Stations of the Cross, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, 3/22, 4-7 p.m.
277 Reeb Ave., Columbus (Huber Hall)
ST. LADISLAS CHURCH

Stations of the Cross, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, 3/22, 4-7 p.m.
226 Elm St., London (School)
ST. PATRICK CHURCH

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277 Reeb Ave., Columbus (Huber Hall)
ST. LADISLAS CHURCH

Soup Suppers, Tuesdays, 3/12-4/9, 6 p.m.
Spaghetti Dinner, Saturday, 3/2, 4-7:30 p.m.
(seniors served at 4 p.m.)
785 Newark Road, Granville
Fridays, 3/8-4/12, 4-7 p.m.
1 Green Wave Drive, Newark
NEWARK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Soup Suppers, Tuesdays, 3/12-4/9, 6 p.m.
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Fish fries on Lenten Fridays were a result of the change. It’s not known when the first such event occurred in the Diocese of Columbus. A search of The Catholic Times’ archives shows parish fish fries didn’t begin to be advertised regularly in the newspaper until the mid-1980s.

More than four dozen parishes in the diocese now serve meatless meals to the public on Lenten Fridays, and, in some cases, on other days of Lent as well. Most of the meals center on fish, but some offer pasta as either the sole choice or an alternative.

Among the most popular and longest-running fish fries in the Columbus area are those at Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona and St. Matthias churches, Pickerington Seton Parish and the New Albany Church of the Resurrection.

“We experimented a lot to come up with a couple formulas that have worked for us,” Pishitelli said concerning the fish fry at St. Margaret of Cortona, 1600 N. Hague Ave. “For our fried perch, we have a batter that combines beer with a mixture of spices we keep to ourselves. With baked fish, it’s a creamy sauce developed by one of the women in our choir who is a chef. We bake the fish in the oven, and it comes out a beautiful golden brown.”

The fish comes from Frank’s Fish & Seafood Market, a neighbor of St. Margaret’s on Columbus’ west side. Last year, the parish purchased more than 5,000 pounds of fish, with leftovers donated to the Holy Family Soup Kitchen and the Friends of the Homeless pantry.

A total of about 4,600 customers were served on the six Fridays after Ash Wednesday and before Good Friday. (Most parishes do not have a fish fry on Good Friday, although it is a day of abstinence.) Weekly attendance totals ranged from about 770 to about 860.

The events had a profit of about $16,000 last year, bringing total earnings for the parish from fish fries since 1999 to nearly $235,000. The money goes toward general parish expenditures. Pishitelli said the peak year for his parish’s fish fries was 2009, when there were no fish fries near St. Margaret’s in 1999, when he volunteered to put one together. Seventeen volunteers showed up for the first organizational meeting. Each was made a crew leader, and some are still part of the team.

“That first year was a big learning curve,” Pishitelli said. “We got crowds of about 400 to 500 people, so we knew we were on something. The goal that year was to pay for a fence around our ballfield. We succeeded, and it’s grown from there.

“Besides good food, one big key to our success is that we serve people at tables,” he said. “We have about 50 servers each week, with a lot of them being students from Trinity Elementary School or Bishop Ready High School, for which we’re a feeder parish. Some even are college students from Ohio Dominican, Capital or Ohio State (universities). For the grade school and high school kids, it’s a chance to earn service hours. It also provides a great opportunity for parents and their children to work together.

“We have about 100 volunteers, including servers, every week, and they come from every parish organization. That’s another big factor, that it’s not limited to one or two organizations. This has become so big we need everyone’s help, and that has been a tremendous catalyst for parish growth and unity.”

Pishitelli said he’s always looking for ways to tweak the menu. “This year, we’re adding baked sweet potatoes,” he said. “Last year, it was macaroni and cheese. With help from a dietician at Ohio State, we’re also looking at ways to expand our homemade dessert menu for diabetics. Father Tim Hayes, the pastor at Columbus St. Timothy Church, asked us to do this last year, and we added angel food cake. Now it’s become a personal thing for me because I’ve learned I have Type 2 diabetes.”

This year’s menu includes two pieces of fish (fried ocean perch with beer batter, oven-baked cod with secret sauce, or one of each); a choice of two sides (french fries, baked potato, macaroni and cheese or sweet potato); coleslaw or applesauce; a roll and butter; a homemade dessert; and coffee. Children may order a macaroni and cheese dinner as an option. Prices are $10 for adults, $9.50 for senior citizens and $5 for children ages 4 to 10. Meals are free for younger children and for fish fry volunteers.

There is a $1 charge for soda or an additional serving of any fish or side item. The parish formerly offered unlimited seconds on fish, but Pishitelli said some people began to abuse that privilege. Carryout is available. In addition, Girl Scout cookies will be sold on the first three Fridays. Hours are 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Columbus St. Matthias, 1582 Ferris Road, was one of the first area parishes to offer fish fries following the changes in abstinence regulations.

“It was at least 50 years ago,” said Jan MacKay, who was in charge of the dinners for more than 20 years. “At that time, we had a small school with six classrooms – two grades in every room – with the church as part of the school building, as it is today.

“Every classroom at that time was used for the fish fries. We had a separate kitchen, but one classroom was used for ticket sales. We took the desks from the other classrooms and put in tables and chairs. Parking was limited, and we had a small entrance off the parking lot.

“The idea of a fish fry was so novel at the time that we had busloads of people coming from other parishes. There were buses from the west, east and north sides of town every Friday in those early years, each filled with people. In time, most of those parishes started their own fish fries, but we were the pioneers and showed them how to do things,” she said.

“Crowds were large, but the people were very accommodating. The purpose of all this was to help our own school expand, and that’s what happened. We have an addition, which includes a cafeteria, plus an overflow room, which generally is needed for fish fries because the cafeteria is full most of the time.

“Earnings now go to our general fund, unless there is a specific need. We continue to draw well, with at least 300 people, sometimes more, coming each week, and about 100 volunteers who come from every organization in the parish.”
FISH FRIES, continued from Page 11

“We don’t claim to have any special secrets,” MacKay said. “As long as we have a good product and make it to the best of our ability, that’s our secret. If you have it, people will come. And we have the people who are ready to help and happy to do it.”

She said the fish comes from Gordon Food Service (GFS), with pies from Just Pies bakery. Clam chowder and macaroni and cheese have been popular additions to the menu in recent years. One year, the menu included shrimp and pasta, but the couple who provided it have moved.

This year, St. Matthias fish fries will begin a half-hour earlier, at 4 p.m., concluding at 7, when the Stations of the Cross devotion begins in the church. The menu includes baked or fried fish; french fries, a baked potato or macaroni and cheese; coleslaw, applesauce or a salad; a roll; and coffee. Prices are $6 or $8 for dinners, $3 for a fish sandwich dinner, and $3 for children, with extras including clam chowder for $2.50, pie for $2.40, soda for $1 and orange drink for 50 cents. Carryout is available.

Pickerington St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, 600 Hill Road N., is one of the few parishes that offers salmon as an option. It comes from Michael’s Finer Meats & Seafoods in Columbus.

“We’ve had fish fries for about 15 years at the parish, but we started perfecting things about five years ago,” said Frank Hare of Knights of Columbus Council 11187, which, like many Knights councils, sponsors the fish fry for its parish. Profits are used for parish needs and the many charitable events supported by the Knights, including assistance to seminarians and the developmentally disabled.

“We buy the salmon fresh, hand-filet it and add a special seasoning we call ‘Baby Bam’ in honor of chef Emeril Lagasse’s Bam Sauce,” he said. “It’s a mixture of salt, garlic, onion and regular and cayenne pepper. For our fish, which is from GFS, we have a homemade beer batter that’s been done for years by the same gentleman, a parishioner, Ray Creamer.”

Baked fish also is available.

“We’re only open from 5 to 7 p.m., but in that time, we manage to serve $50 to 650 people. We’re really proud of how we hustle to do it. This is a complete parish effort. Besides what the Knights do, the parish mothers ministry makes the desserts, and the Columbian Squires (the Knights’ youth group) serve beverages and do the teardown. About 45 to 50 people are involved altogether.

“Father Jim Klima, our pastor, always stresses that any activity which links the parish and the local community is a good thing,” Hare said. “He’s just beaming on those Friday nights when the parish center is packed and the parish and community are sharing food and friendship.”

The menu also includes macaroni and cheese; specialty potatoes or rice and a vegetable (past vegetable choices have included roasted squash and steamed broccoli crowns); coleslaw; apple sauce; desserts; and iced tea or lemonade. Prices are $10 for salmon; $9 for adults and $5 for children for fried or baked fish; $6 for macaroni and cheese plus other items, but without fish; and $1 per can for soda. Seconds are available on the potatoes and vegetable. A carryout option of baked or fried fish, macaroni and cheese, coleslaw and applesauce is available for $8.

The New Albany Church of the Resurrection offers a full buffet dinner menu. In addition, it began making carryout lunches available last year.

“The idea for the carryout came one Friday morning during Lent in 2017 when I was visiting my barber, who is Catholic,” said Sean Morrissey of Knights of Columbus Council 10941. “He said he didn’t want to eat fast-food fish for lunch, so that got me thinking about making lunch available. We start our fish fry preparations for Thursday nights anyway, and we found people willing to come in at 8 a.m. Friday instead of at lunchtime to continue the preparation, so we were able to start a lunch program.”

He said 344 lunches were served last year, with that number expected to grow significantly as more people become aware that the meals are available. Nearly 5,200 dinners were served in 2018, with about 100 volunteers assisting weekly.

Fried or baked fish, a baked potato or french fries, coleslaw, cheese pizza, macaroni and cheese, and grilled cheese sandwiches are on the menu each week. In addition, a side dish and two kinds of soup (tomato and one other) are offered each week. This year’s sides will include vegetable lasagna and pasta with marinara sauce, either on alternate weeks or rotating with a third option. Morrissey said the slaw is from a unique family recipe, and the fish is hand-breaded by the Knights in a dry batter.

Prices are $12 for adults, $11 for carryout, $10 for senior citizens, and $7 for children ages 4 to 10, with younger children free. Homemade desserts are $1 extra. Lunches, served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., are $8 and include three pieces of fish, fries, coleslaw and a can of soda. Orders may be placed through the parish website, www.cotrna.org.

Morrissey and Chris Sarka have been in charge of Church of the Resurrection fish fries for the past 10 years or so. “The parish had fish fries for a couple of years before that, but not on this scale,” he said. “Both of us grew up in northwest Ohio, where fish fries are big, and wanted to bring that type of culture, and the family unity it often helps strengthen, to Columbus.”

“Doing this is like running a full-service restaurant for six days out of a year. We have several chefs who are part of the parish, and they have been happy to provide their expertise. The purpose of all of this is to create a family-centered activity, with individual families and the parish family coming together for friendship and community, all in preparation for the end of Lent – the Resurrection of Jesus,” he said.
QUINTS, continued from Page 8

...do the same,” she said.

All five quintlets anticipate attending college somewhere in Ohio this fall, but none has made a definite choice. Ben wants to major in engineering or architecture, while Alex is interested in accounting or criminology. The girls are considering careers in education, with Grace saying she’s most interested in being a high school teacher, Mary Kate in teaching Spanish, and Emma in psychology or education as a major.

“One big reason I want to be a teacher is the example many of the teachers at DeSales have set,” Mary Kate said, mentioning English and broadcast journalism teacher Kate Reither and language teacher Marie Luessels as examples. “They’ve shown me how much fun teaching could be and made it my dream job. The ultimate would be to come back to DeSales and teach.”

“I’ve had the privilege of teaching four of the five Whalens, and they all have been blessed with unique personalities and preferences,” Reither said. “Mary Kate may look like Alex, and Emma may sound like Grace, but I think the only true similarity the five quintlets, and I admire that they honored their fair share of love of each other. I love the quintlets, and I admire that they honestly see the gift in the built-in support group they were given since birth.”

“The Whalen children have a tremendous school spirit,” said DeSales principal Dan Garrick. “Not only have they shared their talents with the soccer, hockey and cheer teams, each of them have also found their own unique niche. We asked them to keep an open mind. They came back, and I was surprised when all five said they wanted to go to DeSales, even though New Albany had more ‘bells and whistles,’” he said.

“They took a tour, and the DeSales students really sold the school,” Mary Kate said. “The kids got a great start in the public schools, and New Albany certainly had plenty to offer, but there was something missing — that foundation of faith, family and tradition DeSales has. We wanted them to get that.”

“What’s made DeSales special has been the family aspect,” Grace said. “At first, I thought it was a cliché, but in four years, I’ve found that the people here really are like a big family. “Everybody’s a friend to everybody else,” Mary Kate said.

“I know our parents have made financial sacrifices so we could go to DeSales, and I definitely appreciate what they’ve done for us,” Ben said, drawing thank-yous from Mike and Gina, who added, “We’ve made sacrifices, but it’s been worth it, and we did get a big break on high school tuition payments. If only we could be that lucky when it comes to college.”

The Whalens lived in Reynoldsburg through eighth grade. “We always wanted to some Catholic education, and with our backgrounds there, DeSales was a natural place to consider for high school,” Mike said.

“We went to an open house at the school when the five of them were in eighth grade. Both boys were interested in the soccer program, because DeSales had just won the state championship. But the kids didn’t like the idea of wearing school uniforms. We asked them to keep an open mind. They came back, and I was surprised when all five said they wanted to go to DeSales, even though New Albany had more ‘bells and whistles,’” he said.

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The Whalens lived in Reynoldsburg when the children were born and moved to New Albany when they were 3 years old, “mostly because we wanted a bigger yard rather than because of the size of the house,” Gina said. They live in a home of about 2,000 square feet with four bedrooms, plus another 900 square feet with two bedrooms in the basement — not that big of a house for eight people, five of them teenagers.

“We do step on each other’s toes occasionally, but we’ve learned how to give each other space,” Gina said. “By sharing bedrooms and figuring out how to use what space is available, you become better prepared for being adults.”

“Most of the time, Mom does the boys’ laundry and the girls do their own,” Mary Kate said. “Sometimes we’re given specific chores, but mostly it’s a case of, ‘If you see something needs done, you go do it.’”

When it comes to grocery shopping, “it’s not a trip to the store every few days, but a constant thing,” Gina said. “Today, for instance, we had three carts full of food. Tomorrow, we may go again. One of the best things that has happened to shopping is that stores are starting to do curbside pickup and home delivery.”

Speaking of the quintlets’ impending departure for college, their mother said, “I can’t imagine it, even though they keep telling me it’s going to happen. Even when they go to college, they’ll still be coming home, and we still have Lindsey. I don’t think we’ll ever be empty-nesters. If it’s anything like it is with my family, we figure there will be grandkids coming and going all the time.”

“The grocery bill might be going down,” Mike said, to which Gina added, “And the house might be clean for more than a day.”

Over the years, the family has traveled to Florida, South Carolina, Tennessee and Michigan. “But I remember best the trips we’ve gone on with a bunch of family members — cousins, aunts, uncles and grandparents all getting together,” Ben said.

“Our extended families have been such a vital part of our lives,” Gina said. “All of Mike’s and my siblings have been tremendously helpful. It’s like having a bunch of parents.”

That led to discussion among the quintlets about what size families they’d like to have. Grace said she wanted “a big family with a lot of love,” to which Ben responded, “I think I’d like a more medium-sized family — two or three kids and a couple of dogs.” Alex then asked, “What if we were all neighbors?” which brought a lot of chuckles.

People always have been curious about the family because of the quintlets, but the Whalens said they made a conscious decision from the beginning to protect their privacy. “We wanted them to grow up like normal kids,” Gina said. “It’s hard enough for any family today to raise children when everybody knows your business.

“We’ve had some opportunities, but it’s always been a decision of what was good or bad about something. Unless it was all or mostly good — like, say, a Mother’s Day story, which we’ve done with some of the local media — we’ve turned it down.”

“The older the kids got, the less the local media were interested,” Gina said. “The public wants juicy gossip, negative things. That’s not what we’re about.”

“We got some offers that were pretty lucrative, but what good would come from it?” Mike said. “We’d have to live with putting our family in the public eye for the rest of our lives. That made it pretty easy to say ‘no.’”

St. Pius X to sponsor day of prayer

“What are You Doing for Lent?” is the title for a Lenten day of prayer and reflection that will take place from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, March 9 in the new Msgr. David Funk Family Center at Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road.

Each year at the beginning of Lent, we hear the call to prayer, fasting and almsgiving. The focus for the day will be on prayer. Participants will be introduced to three forms of prayer and be given the time to practice each of them. It will be a day of quiet and contemplation.

Leaders for the day will be Sister Joan Supel OP, former director of the parish’s RCIA program, and Mary Reichley, former director of small faith communities at Westerville St. Paul Church. The day will include a box lunch.

The cost is $10, with checks made payable to St. Pius X Church. Registration is required by Sunday, March 3. To register, contact Leah Kelly at (614) 866-2859 to register.
Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

Lord, it is good to give thanks to you

fullness of the heart, the mouth speaks.”

Within the heart of each human being, there is a seed of the Kingdom that may be discovered and nurtured. The Wisdom Jesus presents calls for an acknowledgement of one’s own goodness and of the mystery of each human being we encounter.

Battling with evil is only a small portion of the work to be done on behalf of the Gospel. It is important work. It involves the effort to counter evil in the world around us. It includes the challenge of resisting the evil that is within our own hearts. But our work is not finished, even if we succeed in ridding ourselves of the evil within and outside us. Rather, our true work is only then beginning.

The Gospel calls us to allow the goodness that God has placed in every human being to grow and develop. Time is for eternity. God’s grace is God’s greatest gift to us. Time is the greatest gift after grace. Time gives us the opportunity to begin true cooperation, with grace. Death will be swallowed up in victory when the corruptible world gives place to what is incorruptible; namely, the unique reality of each human being. Our task is to learn to associate with one another in the awareness of the seeds of eternity planted in each unique soul.

Our measure of ourselves and of others must begin with God’s measure, the love He has placed in each heart. Out of each heart’s abundance, ever-new riches will be discovered. The immensity of God’s love can only be realized when we choose to allow Him to be our measure. St. Paul encourages us: “Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, be firm, steadfast, always fully devoted to the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.” What we labor for is eternal life. Each soul, created by God in His love, is destined to minister in the Kingdom for all eternity.

Living ‘I Do’ – Weekly Marriage Tips

Where does marriage rank in your commitments? Is anything stealing time and energy from your relationship with your spouse? Many things might be good, but the highest good is your call to holiness. You have committed yourself to pursuing it through marriage.

Diocesan Marriage and Family Life Office

PRAYER TO THE VIRGIN

(Never known to fail)

Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of heaven, blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in necessity. Oh, star of the sea, help me and show me wherein, you are my Heaven and Earth. I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to give me the power and energy from your relationship with your spouse? Many things might be good, but the highest good is your call to holiness. You have committed yourself to pursuing it through marriage.

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Diocesan Marriage and Family Life Office
In the mid-1980s, my wife and I were invited to a baptism and to the post-christening reception at the home of the newborn’s parents. During the latter festivities, I was introduced to a young man who was working on a doctorate in Church history at Harvard.

We fell into conversation and, after 20 minutes or so, I had one of those rare experiences that are so precious in life: I knew instinctively that Borys Gudziak and I were going to be close friends for a very long time.

I had no idea then what a singular life Borys already had lived, nor what drama the future held in store for him. The son of Ukrainian immigrants who had come to America after World War II to escape communist persecution in their homeland, he had grown up in Syracuse, New York, thinking himself a future star in the National Basketball Association. After recognizing that slightly built, six-foot tall Ukrainian-Americans were not avidly sought by NBA teams, he adjusted his career plans and undertook both an advanced degree in history and a theological education. The latter came, in part, by personal instruction in Rome from the great Cardinal Josyf Slipyj, the exiled leader of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church (UGCC), who had been tried out of the Gulag by Pope St. John XXIII – and who was the model for the “pope from the East” in Morris West’s novel, The Shoes of the Fisherman.

Slipyj was the successor of the even greater Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky (died 1944), one of the singular figures of 20th-century Catholicism (and a man whose beatification is long overdue). Sheptytsky’s dreams for the future of Ukrainian Greek Catholicism included the creation of a great university. That university now exists, in L’viv in western Ukraine, and is widely recognized as the finest center of higher learning in the country. The development of the Ukrainian Catholic University is one of Catholicism’s great accomplishments of recent decades. And the university exists and thrives because of the extraordinary work of its first rector, Father Borys Gudziak (ordained a priest in 1998), who gathered around him a host of first-class scholars and teachers, some of whom were veterans of the Soviet prison camp system.

In 2012, Father Gudziak was ordained a bishop and given responsibility for the Ukrainian Greek Catholics of France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg and Switzerland. As with the university in L’viv, he had to start from scratch: few clergy, few churches, no money, inadequate records. But with his remarkable capacity for work, which is driven by a deep faith and nourished by prayer, he rebuilt the life of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in western Europe – now composed primarily of undocumented immigrants – and set in place the foundations for its future growth. And Bishop Gudziak did all this from his base in Paris while maintaining a major role at the Ukrainian Catholic University and serving as a kind of “foreign minister” for the Greek Catholic Church in Ukraine as the country was invaded by Russian forces after the Maidan revolution of dignity in 2013-14.

So while he may not have developed Steph Curry’s lethal long-range jump shot, Borys Gudziak’s extraordinary ministry has displayed some of that NBA superstar’s graceful talent, electric energy, and ability to make everyone around him do (and be) better.

On Feb. 18, it was announced that Pope Francis had accepted the nomination of the Synod of the UGCC and was naming Bishop Gudziak the head of the Greek Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia. Something of the quality of the man can be gleaned from an interview Archbishop-Elect Gudziak released that day:

“As I – hopefully – mature as a human being, I am increasingly drawn by the mystery of our God in Three Persons. This may be daring, but I want to be in the presence of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. … My central belief is that the Son came into this breathtaking yet often frail human race to be with me and you, even in death, to bring us home to the Father. … I feel the protection of the Mother of God and the solidarity of the communion of saints, especially the martyrs. Life in the Lord, who served and suffered, invites me to suffer with and serve gladly those to whom I am called. …”

Welcome home, my friend.

We are blessed to have you back among us.

George Weigel is a Distinguished Senior Fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C.
Sister Marcia Fleder, OP

Funeral Mass for Sister Marcia Fleder, OP, 91, who died on Sunday, Feb. 17, was celebrated on Friday, Feb. 22 at the Motherhouse of the Dominican Sisters of Peace. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

She was born Irene Fleder on Jan. 3, 1928 in Steubenville to Frank and Adella (Vachaikaukas) Fleder, was a graduate of Steubenville Catholic Central High School, and received a bachelor of science degree in elementary education in 1959 from St. Mary of the Springs College (now Ohio Dominican University).

She entered the congregation of the Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs (now the Dominican Sisters of Peace) in 1947 and made her profession of vows on July 9, 1948.


She was a volunteer at the Motherhouse from 2002 to 2004 and assistant sacristan at the Mohun Health Care Center from 2004 to 2014, and had a ministry of prayer at the center from 2014 until her death.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brother, Frank; and half-brothers, Father Peter Grabaskas and Stanley Grabaskas. Survivors include a brother, Charles; and nieces and nephews.

Sister Mary Frances Welch, OSF

Funeral Mass for Sister Mary Frances Welch, OSF, 91, who died on Monday, Feb. 18, was celebrated on Wednesday, Feb. 20 in the chapel of the Sisters of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity in Stella Niagara, New York. Burial was in the sisters’ cemetery.

She was born in Columbus on May 23, 1927 to William and Anna (Blaney) Welch.

She was a 1945 graduate of Columbus Rosary High School and received a bachelor of science degree in education in 1957 from Rosary Hill College (now Daemen College) in Amherst, New York and a master of arts degree in 1967 from Niagara University. She performed additional graduate studies at Fordham University.

She entered the Stella Niagara Franciscan order on Sept. 1, 1945 and professed her first vows on Aug. 18, 1947, taking the name Sister Mary Peter, and her final vows on the same date in 1950.

In the Diocese of Columbus, she taught at Columbus St. Peter (1953-54), St. Leo (1954-58) and St. John the Evangelist (1960-62) schools. She also was a teacher at elementary schools in New York, West Virginia and the Diocese of Steubenville and at Rosary Hill College. From 1971 to 2002, she worked with higher education programs within the New York state prison system. She had resided at the Stella Niagara health center.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Harold, Thomas, Charles and William; and sisters, Sister Helen Welch, OSF, Catherine and Dorothy. Survivors include many nieces and nephews.

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

ST. TIMOTHY’S PARISH
1088 Thomas Lane, Columbus 43220

ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER
SUNDAY, MARCH 4 - NOON - 7 PM
Adults $10; Seniors $8; Child 12 and under $7
Carryout $9
All you can eat pasta | Homemade meatballs

LENTEN FISH FRY
Fridays 5-8 pm, Mar 8-Apr12
ST MICHAEL CHURCH
5750 N. High St, Worthington
FISH DINNER: REG $9, SMALL $7
MACARONI/ CHEESE DINNER $7
SIDES: CLAM CHOWDER, MAC/ CHEESE $2
DESSERTS $1
Dine In, Drive Thru & Carryout

ST. CHRISTOPHER CHURCH
LENTEN PASTA DINNER
1420 Grandview Avenue | Trinity School Cafeteria
Fridays – March 8 thru April 12
5PM to 7PM
$8 & $6 for adults | $5 & $3 for kids | $30 per Family
Meatless Pasta Sauce provided by local area restaurants
March 8 – Trattoria Roma     March 15 – LaScala

OUR LADY OF VICTORY CHURCH
1559 Roxbury Road, Marble Cliff (Parish Life Center)
FISH FRY DINNERS
Fridays, 3/8 – 4/12, 4:30-7pm
Fresh Ocean Perch (fried) Baked Potatoes, French Fries or Rice, Salad or Soup, Beverages, Dessert included
$10 Adults, $5 Kids
Carryouts available.

ST. PIUS X FISH FRY
1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg (New parish center)
Fridays, 3/8, 3/22, 4/12, 5-7:30 pm
Baked or fried fish, french fries, cheese pizza, apple sauce, fresh puppies, macaroni & cheese, cole slaw, beverage.
Optional dessert table.
$9 adults, $8 seniors,
$5 children 0 and younger; carryouts available

ST. MARGARET OF CORTONA CHURCH
1600 N. Hague Ave, Columbus
21st Annual
“Best Fish Fry Dinner in Town!”
Fridays during Lent, March 8 – April 12, 4:30 – 7:30 PM
Fried Ocean Perch or Baked Cod, with French Fries, Baked Potato, Sweet Potato, Macaroni & Cheese, Cole Slaw, Applesauce, Roll & Butter, and Homemade Desserts. Free coffee!
Adults - $10; Seniors - $9.50; Children 10 & under - $5; Free under 3
Pop, Beer; Seconds & Carryouts available. Info: 279-1690

CLASSIFIED

FISH FRY
Knights of Columbus
ST. JOAN OF ARC PARISH
Powell

FRIDAYS March 8 – April 12, 5 – 7:30 PM
All you can eat meals includes: Baked & fried fish, French Fries, Mac & Cheese, Green Beans, Cole Slaw, Rolls, Soft Drinks.
Adults: $10, Children: $5, Seniors: $9, Carry out: $9.
Cash or Check only.
www.bestfishfry.com
ST PATRICK CHURCH  
FRIDAY FISH FRIES  
All Fridays of Lent (except March 15)  
5pm to 7pm  
Dinner consisting of baked pollack almonds or fried battered cod, choice of fresh fries, baked potato (white or sweet), macaroni & cheese, beverage, and dessert. Stations of the Cross in the Church after dinner.  
Adults $9; Students/Seniors $8  
Family Discounts too! Takeouts available.

MARCH

1. FRIDAY  
St. Cecilia Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
St. Cecilia Church, 434 Norton Road, Columbus. Begins after 8:15 a.m.; Mass; continues to 5 p.m. Saturday.  
Eucharistic Adoration at Columbus St. Peter  
9 a.m. to 8 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. First Friday Eucharistic adoration in day chapel.  
First Friday Masses at Holy Family  
9 a.m., 12:15 and 7 p.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. First Friday Masses in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.  
Monthly Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. Begins after 9 a.m.; Mass; continues through 6 p.m. Holy Hour.  
Catholic Men’s Luncheon Club  
12:15 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Catholic Men’s Luncheon Club meeting, with Mike Dittoe, a descendant of one of Ohio’s pioneer Catholic families, speaking on the origins and development of Catholic life in central Ohio. $10 donation requested.  
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.

1-2. FRIDAY-SATURDAY  
Three Bags Full Consignment Sale  
10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday (selected items half-price Friday night and Saturday). Grove Community Christian Church, 3420 Blacklick Eastern Road N.W., Baltimore. Three Bags Full consignment sale of children’s items. Unsold and unclaimed items are donated to Catholic and pro-life charities. 614-561-5300

2. SATURDAY  
Fatima Devotions at Columbus St. Patrick  
7 a.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Mass, followed by devotions to Our Lady of Fatima, preceded by confessions at 6:30. 614-240-5910  
First Saturday Devotion at St. Joan of Arc  
8:30 a.m., St. Joan of Arc Church, 1007 Liberty Road, Powell. Mass, followed by rosary in reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, concluding with Fatima prayers.  
Mary’s Little Children Prayer Group  
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. 8:30 a.m.; confessions, 9 a.m. Mass, followed by Fatima prayers and Rosary (Shepherds of Christ format); 10 a.m. meeting. 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., St. John the Baptist Church, 720 Haverley St., Columbus. Monthly day of prayer for Columbus chapter of Lay Missionaries of Charity. 614-294-7702  
Maple Syrup Tour at Shepherd’s Corner  
10 a.m. to noon, Shepherd’s Corner Ecology Center, 5 to 7 p.m., Christ the King Church, 277 E. Livingston St., Columbus. Sheet of Station Calendar. Suggest donation $6. Registration required; registration deadline March 4 or when filled. 614-866-2866  
Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter  
7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish, with confessions from 6 to 7, 700-781-4054 or 614-294-7702  
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  
4. MONDAY  
Eucharistic Adoration at Our Lady of Victory  
7 to 8 a.m. and 5 to 7 p.m., Our Lady of Victory Church, 1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus. First Monday Eucharistic Adoration, beginning with Morning Prayer, concluding with Mass.  
Rosary at St. Pius X  
6:30 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Recital of Rosary for the sick of the parish and all who are ill. 614-866-2859  
 Marian Prayer Group at Holy Spirit  
7 p.m., Day chapel, Holy Spirit Church, 4383 E. Broad St., Columbus. Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle prayer group for Catholic family life. 614-235-7435  
5. TUESDAY  
Our Lady of Good Success Study Group  
Noon to 2 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 893 Hamlet St., Columbus. Monthly meeting of Our Lady of Good Success study group. Social period, followed by remedial catechesis study and discussion. 614-294-7702  
Rosary for Life at St. Joan of Arc  
Following 6:15 p.m. Mass, St. Joan of Arc Church, 1007 Liberty Road, Powell. Recital of Rosary for Life, sponsored by church’s respect life committee.

6. WEDNESDAY  
’Soup and Psalms’ at St. Mark  
Following 6 p.m. Mass, St. Raymond Room, St. Mark Church, 224 E. Gay St., Lancaster. Lenten ‘Soup and Psalms’ supper. 740-653-1229  
Divine Mercy Chaplet at St. Pius X  
6:30 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Recital of Chaplet of Divine Mercy. 614-866-2859  
Marian Devotion at St. Elizabeth  
7 p.m., St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. Marian devotion with Scriptural rosary, followed by Mass and monthly novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, with Father Ramon Owera, CFIC.

7. THURSDAY  
‘Live Lent’ Program at St. Ladislas  
1 to 2:30 p.m., Shott Hall, St. Ladislas Church, 277 Reeb Ave., Columbus. “Live Lent” open discussion program on how the Scriptures pertain to life today. 614-443-2828  
Maple Syrup Tour at Shepherd’s Corner  
1 to 3 p.m., Shepherd’s Corner Ecology Center, 900 N. Waggoner Road, Plain City. Thursday tasting showing how maple syrup is made. Suggested donation $6. Registration required; registration deadline March 4 or when filled. 614-866-4302  
Foundation’s St. Martha Women’s Giving Circle  
5:30 p.m., The Catholic Foundation, 257 E. Broad St., Columbus. Meeting of St. Martha’s Women’s Giving Circle with representatives of 10 community organizations, who will describe their missions in hopes of receiving a grant from the group. All women invited. RSVP by March 4. 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 St. John the Baptist  
7 p.m., St. John the Baptist Church, 720 Hamlet St., Columbus. Eucharistic Holy Hour with the intention of deepened holiness and an increase in the virtue of fortitude for our Holy Father, bishops, and priests, concluding with Benediction, social period and refreshments. 614-294-7702  
Dominican Rite Mass at Columbus St. Patrick  
7 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Latin Mass in the Dominican rite, followed by reception. 614-224-9522  
Presentation on ‘Lumen gentium’  
7 p.m., St. Michael Church, 5750 N. High St., Columbus. Part I of three-part presentation on ‘Lumen gentium,’ the Second Vatican Council’s Constitution on the Church. 614-885-7814  
Vespers, Benediction at St. Margaret  
7:30 p.m., St. Margaret of Cortona Church, 1600 N. Hague Ave., Columbus. Sung Vespers and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, following Stations of the Cross at 7 p.m. each Thursday during Lent and parish’s regular Thursday Eucharistic Adoration from 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. 614-279-1690  
8. THURSDAY-FRIDAY  
33 Hours of Adoration at Resurrection  
From end of 9 a.m. Thursday Mass to 6:30 p.m. Friday, Reservation chapel, Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, New Albany. 33 Hours of Eucharistic Adoration in honor of Jesus’ 33 years on Earth. 614-390-9385
vices, and the murder rate dropped by 90 percent in five years. "The mayor said, 'Whatever you Catholics are doing, keep it up,"' Romero said. "Cartel members came to churches, gave up their weapons and said they were going back to Jesus. That's the power of Jesus and of evangelization by Catholics."

Bishop Hying started his talk by saying he will celebrate his 30th anniversary as a priest in May and is "still astounded that God was calling me, because I'm so unworthy. God does not call the qualified; God qualifies the called."

He said his call to the religious life came at age 16. "Once I got old enough to think a little about my future, I began wondering what I wanted to do. Then I heard a message from John Paul II and realized I needed to give up my weapons and said they were going back to Jesus. That's the power of Jesus and of evangelization by Catholics."

"I felt like the pope was coming out of the radio and saying, 'God wants you.' It was like I was shot out of a cannon. From then on, I've had a conviction that God is calling me and you to love Jesus Christ. Our only ultimate purpose is to glorify God and to bring others to heaven and become saints."

"When I was consecrated a bishop, it was done by another bishop, who was consecrated by another bishop, and the line goes all the way back to Jesus saying to Peter, 'Upon this rock I will build my church,'" Bishop Hying said. "That's what's known as the apostolic succession of bishops, and what can be said of bishops can be said of the baptized. We're all part of a line that goes all the way back to the Apostles."

"We have an obligation to pass the faith on so that 200 years from now, our descendants can know Jesus Christ and we can continue to be a Christian nation. . . . We have to go back to Pentecost and (like the Apostles on that day) drink deeply of the Holy Spirit, then speak of Jesus Christ as though no one had ever heard of him."

He talked of how at Pentecost, the Holy Spirit emboldened the Apostles and others gathered in the upper room in Jerusalem, changing their attitude "from fear and division to courage and unity."

"I fear that if Pentecost happened today, the Apostles would have formed a long-range study commission, written papers and come up with five- and 10-year plans. Instead, they just wanted to witness about Jesus. All evangelization should be that personal, bold and powerful," he said.

Bishop Hying spent much of his talk referring to Matthew Kelly's book The Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic. "The first sign is that he is a person of prayer – a lively, ongoing, dynamic conversation with God every day," he said. "If God went to the trouble of creating us, you'd think he wants to hear us."

He described his father as an example of such a person. "He'd come home, take a nap for 15 minutes, then pray for a half-hour. He never said that's what he was doing, but my mom and my five older brothers and me knew what it was. Because of him, I learned to pray."

"The second sign is studying the faith at least 15 minutes a day," he said, noting that the internet has made Catholic teaching more available through platforms such as the Augustine Institute's FORMED.org program. Access coding to the program, which contains thousands of Catholic books, videos and other items, was given to all men's conference participants to use at their convenience.

"We know that for the last few decades, Catholics haven't grown and matured in their faith as they should," he said. "We need to study the faith in any way we can. We need to be like my dad, who wasn't highly educated, but knew the old Baltimore Catechism."

The third of Kelly's signs of a dynamic Catholic is generosity. Bishop Hying, who grew up in suburban Milwaukee and was ordained a priest for the Milwaukee archdiocese, said the greatest examples of generosity he knew were found among the parishioners of the archdiocese's mission to the Dominican Republic, where he spent four years.

"I was so blinded by their (the Dominicans') physical poverty that at first I couldn't see them as individuals," he said. "Then I was so blinded by their spiritual beauty I could no longer see their poverty."

He gave as an example a family that had "one daughter, one table, one chair and one chicken. . . . They insisted I sit in the chair as their guest, and they sat on the floor. I anointed their daughter, we watched a beautiful sunset together, and as I was leaving, the father untied the chicken and handed it to me. They insisted that I take it, we had a 40-minute fight, and it ended up coming home with me. Like the poor widow with only two coins who gave them to the Temple treasury, they gave everything they had."

"As for the chicken, the cook at the mission cooked it the next day. She had no sentimentality toward animals. But I took the food back to the family."

"I never heard people in the Dominican Republic complain," Bishop Hying said. "They always had a sense of pride in spite of their poverty. They had a great sense of gratitude. Gratitude is always thankful for, and accepts, what it has; entitlement always seeks more. When we live lives of sacrificial gratitude, God blesses that to bring others to him."

Kelly's fourth sign of a dynamic Catholic is a spirit of evangelization. "You live your faith at work; you're
“The religious guy,” Bishop Hying said in describing such a person. “People instinctively grasp something different about you. They are attracted to it and want it for themselves. You are like an overflowing font of the Holy Spirit, with your presence blessing everyone you come in contact with.”

An often-quoted statistic from Kelly’s book, based on studies by his Dynamic Catholic Institute, is that about 7 percent of Catholics in a given parish do almost all of its essential work and provide almost all the funds for its maintenance and mission. “Imagine if we got that up to even 9 percent, 10 percent. What about 25 percent? Imagine the difference that would make,” Bishop Hying said.

Gray, the concluding speaker, is president of the Augustine Institute, a Denver-based master’s degree program in Scripture, evangelization and catechesis, and a Scripture professor at St. John Vianney Theological Seminary in Denver. He spoke on “The Virtue of Manhood” and was critical of the phrase “toxic masculinity,” which has come into widespread use in the past few months.

He said a tendency exists today to mock ideas of self-reliance and competition. “There are people who want to make everybody dependent and vulnerable,” he said. “Self-reliance is part of authentic manhood. And what if we decided we didn’t want to be competitive at the time of World War II? We would be slaves to the Nazis or the communists. The world is not going to give you anything. Men are made to engage, struggle, fight and labor.”

He said the opposite of traditional masculinity is effeminacy. “I’m not talking about femininity, which is beautiful, true and good and complements masculinity,” Gray said. “Effeminacy is a softness of character, a tendency toward passivity and inaction. The Greeks, Romans and Aquinas saw it in such things as a disordered desire toward entertainment and play, the pursuit of comfort and pleasure in food and drink, and the championing of emotion over reason.”

He spoke of a tendency to be “soft after success,” using the example of the older King David, who as a young man killed the Philistine giant Goliath, but stayed home when he got older, let others do the fighting, committed adultery and had his best general killed to cover up his own sins. “He was addicted to leisure rather than responsibility but ultimately repented, and God purified him,” Gray said. Gray also acknowledged that he has to fight his own tendencies toward looking for the easy way out and “complaining about stupid things.”
Aquinas said that if you complain, it’s a sign of effeminacy. Real men don’t whine,” the professor said.

He said this tendency was described by the Latin word *acedia*, which means “not caring.”

“It’s like having two strikes on you and being afraid to swing on the next pitch,” he said. “You see a good you should pursue, like getting a hit, learning a skill or calling someone for a date, but give in to your fear and let the opportunity go by.

“This leads to a smallness of heart,” Gray said, comparing that to the Latin word *magnanimitas*, or “greatness of heart,” from which the English word “magnanimity” comes. “The *acedia* attitude even extends to the way we feel toward children,” he said. “Kids today are seen as a burden and a cost. Where’s the magnanimity in that?

“We don’t need to apologize for authentic masculinity, competitiveness and self-reliance, but to celebrate it,” Gray said. “Authentic masculinity seeks to give the self away in loyal, generous love,” he said. Paraphrasing paragraph 41 of *Gaudium et Spes*, Vatican II’s constitution on the church in the modern world, he said, “Whoever follows Christ, the perfect man, becomes himself more of a man.

“Loving God makes us better men,” he said. “Experience the true version of love by giving yourself in love to others. Jesus Christ has shown you the way.”

The conference concluded with a Mass celebrated by Bishop Frederick Campbell and concelebrated by Bishop Hying and priests of the Diocese of Columbus. Music was provided by the Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church men’s choir, directed by John Pottkotter. Fred Shafer of Hilliard St. Brendan Church was master of ceremonies.

One memorable unplanned moment came at the start of a half-hour period of Eucharistic Adoration scheduled between Bishop Hying’s talk and the lunch and reconciliation break. As the procession with the Eucharist started, lights began flashing, a buzzer sounded and an electronic voice announced there was a fire in the building. Word quickly spread that smoke from the incense being used in the procession was triggering the alarm, and everyone stayed in their seats with no disruption in the program.

Nicholas LaRosa of Columbus St. Patrick Church was one of 3,000 men at the conference.