



DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

CATHOLIC TIMES

A journal of Catholic life in Ohio

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THIRD WEEK OF EASTER
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THE DIOCESE IS CELEBRATING ITS 150TH
ANNIVERSARY. SEE THE SPECIAL SECTION INSIDE

Editor's reflections by Doug Bean

Happy anniversary to the Diocese of Columbus

Anniversaries provide an opportunity to reflect on the past and what lies ahead.

As the Diocese of Columbus commemorates the 150th year since its founding in 1868, the Catholic Times takes an in-depth look this week at the important events that have shaped the faith in what today is an expansive 23-county area stretching from Ada to New Philadelphia to Portsmouth. (See the special section starting on Page 7.)

The diocese will celebrate the sesquicentennial at a Mass on Sunday, April 22, at St. Joseph Cathedral with Bishop Frederick Campbell presiding. Other activities are planned in 2018, and to mark the occasion, the Office for Social Concerns is encouraging parishes and schools to plant a tree.

No one obviously is still alive who knew the first bishop, Sylvester Rosecrans, or could provide an eyewitness account of the diocese's founding and the construction of the cathedral.

Donald Schlegel's new book, *Devotion to Truth: The Life of Rt. Rev. Sylvester H. Rosecrans, D.D.*, First Bishop of Columbus, explores Bishop Rosecrans' life and ministerial work in the early church in Columbus in greater detail.

But several now-retired priests have seen a substantial portion of diocese's history unfold. One of those is Monsignor Robert Noon, who entered the seminary at what is now St. Charles Preparatory School in 1945. He was ordained in 1951.

In May, it will be 67 years since he became a priest. Father Saulius Laurinaitis and Monsignor James Geiger are the only living Columbus diocesan priests who received Holy Orders before Monsignor Noon, in 1948 and 1950, respectively.

That's a lot of history and a lot of years serving faithful parishioners in a multitude of Catholic parishes, schools, organizations, and medical facilities.

Monsignor Noon, who turns 95 next month, shared some of his memories this week. He recalled several historical events, discussed his service to the diocese, and talked about changes in the Church he experienced through the years.

The world was far different after World War II when Monsignor Noon began seminary studies. When he was ordained in '51, *I Love Lucy* was a popular TV show in its first season, gasoline was 19 cents a gallon, the average price of a new car was \$1,500, and a new home cost around \$9,000.

In the Catholic Church, Latin was the norm in the extraordinary form of the Mass.

In more than 40 years of ministry before retiring, he was stationed at parishes throughout the diocese. His first assignment was at old Columbus St. Peter Church. Along the way, he taught religion at the old Columbus St. Joseph Academy and Holy Family High School, was an associate pastor at Marion St. Mary, Columbus St. Aloysius, Lancaster St. Mary, Coshocton Sacred Heart, Columbus Our Lady of Peace, and Columbus Holy Spirit, and was pastor at Waverly St. Mary, Columbus St. Elizabeth and Lancaster St. Bernadette.

For three years, he worked outside the diocese in Peru as a mission priest before a health issue brought him back to Columbus to stay. He also was involved in Cursillo and the charismatic movement, and went to Rome for a year as the priest-in-residence at the North American College.

In the 1960s, the major event in the diocese and around the world was the changes in the Mass after the Second Vatican Council.

"I remember back in Marion back in the 1950s when we were instructing people into the Church, they would ask, 'Would we ever have the Mass in English,'" Monsignor Noon said. "I said I don't think we will in our lifetimes. I think it will come down the road maybe in another 100-150 years. Well, it wasn't 15 years later when we got the Mass in English. So it's hard to predict changes, whether those changes be good or bad."

At the same time, Columbus was growing and expanding into areas once occupied by farms. In 1967, he became the founding pastor of St. Elizabeth Church on the North Side.

"Founding a parish is just a tremendous experi-

ence," he said. "Everybody is working with you. There's a spirit there."

Bishop John Carberry led the diocese at the time before he was appointed archbishop of St. Louis and later became a cardinal. He left Columbus in 1968 as the diocese marked its 100th anniversary.

"Bishop Carberry really tried and succeeded in getting the diocese into Vatican II," Monsignor Noon recalled. "He did it in a very quiet way."

The process involved "working with the people at St. Elizabeth and leading them through the documents. We had a lot of study clubs. One of the big things was we always had to explain to the people what we were doing. You had to lead them into it."

At St. Elizabeth and in his previous assignment at Waverly St. Mary, Monsignor Noon received permission for the first time to bring Masses into homes. He estimates that he celebrated 140 such Masses during his priesthood.

Even before the Council was called, Monsignor Noon remembers other changes were afoot that included alterations to fasting rules before Mass and the advent of the Saturday evening Mass.

One event that stands out was a fire that destroyed the old Chillicothe St. Peter Church in 1947.

"Just to be there that whole day and seeing all of that and the parishioners standing around and crying was just ... Everything was lost."

After Monsignor Noon retired in 1993, he took on a number short-term assignments at parishes to fill in for priests while spending 13 years in residence at Lancaster St. Mark before moving to The Villas of Saint Therese.

He recalls the days when there were two or more priests at nearly every parish. That is not the case today, but he's hopeful that the diocese is seeing a turnaround with four men preparing for ordination this year and four more in 2019.

Only God knows what the next 150 years will bring. Pray for vocations and the protection of our diocese.



Front Page photo:
The interior of Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, site of a Mass on Sunday, April 22 which will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Diocese of Columbus.

CT photo by Ken Snow

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Prayers for victims of Humboldt tragedy

By Catholic News Service

Crying, hugging and shaking their heads in grief, the people of Humboldt, Saskatchewan, gathered at the local hockey arena on April 8 for an interfaith service to mourn 15 people who died after the bus carrying the town's junior hockey team collided with a truck.

The 15 dead included 10 players between the ages of 16 and 21, the coach, radio broadcaster, bus driver and other personnel. The accident occurred April 6 when a bus taking the team to a playoff game collided with a transport truck on a highway near the town of Tisdale. Fourteen others on the bus were injured.

Condolences poured into Humboldt from around the world, including messages from Pope Francis, Queen Elizabeth and U.S. President Donald Trump. The Vatican secretary of state sent blessings on behalf of the pope.

"Informed of the injury and tragic loss of life caused by the road traffic accident in the province of Saskatchewan involving young hockey players, His Holiness Pope Francis sends his condolences to those who have lost loved ones, and commends the souls of the deceased to the mercy of almighty God. To all in the community at this difficult time, Pope Francis sends his blessing."

Saskatoon Bishop Mark Hagemoen, whose diocese includes Humboldt, read the pope's message during an afternoon service at Holy Family Cathedral in Saskatoon.

"We don't know why tragedy and disaster come, but we do know the one

who holds us throughout that tragedy, and we celebrate today that the one who holds us is one of mercy," Bishop Hagemoen said during the service on Divine Mercy Sunday.

Bishop Hagemoen attended the evening prayer service at Elgar Petersen Arena and Uniplex in Humboldt and offered a final blessing.

"Lord God, you are the light that illumines the darkness," he prayed. "Continue to lead us into your light."

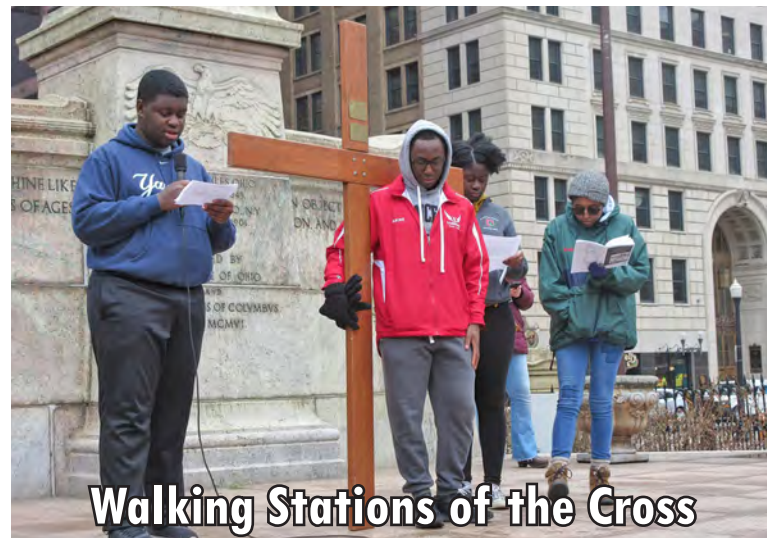
Earlier, he sent a message of condolences and prayers to those affected by the tragedy.

"God continues to respond to us, and now he responds to the people of Humboldt and other parts of Western Canada who are profoundly affected by this terrible tragedy," he said. "I am very thankful that, at this terrible time, the people of God here show Christ-like compassion and care through such a community of support."

The interfaith service was live-streamed and watched across the province, including at St. Augustine Catholic Church just up the street from the arena.

Father Joseph Salihu, pastor of St. Augustine, participated in the vigil. He said as soon as news of the accident spread across town, "all the ministers came as one ... we drove straight to the Uniplex to be with the families."

A Go-Fund-Me page was set up to collect donations for families. Organizers hoped to raise \$10,000 but, in less than 48 hours, donations exceeded \$4 million.



Walking Stations of the Cross

Youth from Columbus St. Dominic Church lead a reflection on the death penalty at the Ohio Statehouse during the Good Friday Walking Stations of the Cross on March 30. The statehouse stop was the 12th station (Jesus is raised on the cross and dies). Hundreds of Catholics from across the diocese walked through downtown Columbus and stopped at 14 locations along the Way of the Cross to pray and reflect on Christ's suffering and crucifixion, linking those events to current issues of social concern. Others stops included the Ohio Supreme Court, St. Lawrence Haven, and Holy Cross Church. An annual tradition since 1996, the Walking Stations of the Cross is co-sponsored by the diocesan Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry and Office for Social Concerns.

Jubilee Museum begins lecture series

The Jubilee Museum, which has the largest collection of diversified Catholic artwork in the United States, is launching a monthly Thursday-night lecture series on topics related to faith and culture.

The first speaker for the series will be Debbi Dach Sugarman, who will share memories of her father, the late Morris Dach, a Holocaust survivor who was a strong supporter of the museum. Dach was the owner of Restaurant Equipppers, a food service supply store located near the museum. His story is told in the museum's Synagogue Room, which features a number of Jewish artifacts.

The lecture, followed by questions and answers, will be presented at 7 p.m. on April 19, with doors opening at 6:15 and light refreshments available. The event will conclude at 8 with an invitation to continue conversation at a local brewery or pub.

The museum is located at 57 S. Grubb St. in the former Columbus Holy Family School. It is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday,

with tours also available by appointment. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and senior citizens. Group discounts are available.

The museum's inaugural open house and fundraiser, "An Irish Easter," will take place from 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday, April 21. The Blarney Hearts will provide music and entertainment, and there will be door prizes, raffle drawings, a grand prize, free museum tours, and free hors d'oeuvres, with a cash bar.

A new gallery is being built at the museum to feature works by renowned sculptor Alfred Tibor, who died last year at age 97. He came to Columbus in 1973 and spent the last 44 years of his life creating artwork which can be found in nearly 500 private collections and museums worldwide and is noted for its uplifting, life-affirming themes.

The museum also is beginning an internship program and is looking for volunteers to serve as docents, to clean and set up exhibits, and to be archivists. For more information, call (614) 600-0054.



**Congratulations to the
Columbus Diocese on its
150th Anniversary**

*Church of the Blessed Sacrament & Blessed Sacrament School
Newark, Ohio*

St. Paul School students create food trucks as STEM project

Westerville St. Paul School fourth-grade students got a chance to start their own businesses and solve real-world problems by creating imaginary food trucks as part of their STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) curriculum.

For nine weeks, they got to see what it takes to run a business. The students formed groups which were given the task of starting a food truck and the goal of making it profitable, then presenting the results of what they had learned to food truck professionals.

The students had to first decide what kind of food they wanted to sell from their truck, then work on market surveys, logo design and advertising ideas (especially with social media resources), 3D truck design, menu creation and design, calculation of square footage available, floor plan design (dealing with space constraints and health and safety codes), public speaking and professional demeanor, and an extra challenge component of creating a promotional item, such as a T-shirt, hat, video commercial, or business cards.

“That’s a lot for nine- and 10-year-olds,” said teacher Angie Kuhn, who supervised the project. “This was a true collaborative effort, supported by the students’ other teachers, so the kids could experience what it is like to

start a business.”

Rather than teach the four STEM disciplines as separate subjects, STEM integrates them into a cohesive learning model based on real-world applications. Catholic schools often add art and religion to the STEM model, making it a STREAM curriculum.

“Many STEM programs include PBL (problem-based learning) activities,” Kuhn said. “Last year as third-graders, the students who took part in the food truck challenge devised ways to attract monarch butterflies to their backyards in the spring because they need milkweed to nourish their young. Through research, they discovered that the number of monarchs has dwindled over the past 20 years because milkweed has not been available, and decided to do something about it.”

Kuhn said some of the important lessons of the student STEM projects are that the teacher is not the fount of all information and that success is driven not only by what you know, but by what you do with what you know.

Local food truck owner Michael Moses was a guest speaker during the project and provided lunch for students and faculty from his truck. There were no “winning” or “losing” projects. At the end of the nine weeks, students finished the process by read-



ing and discussing the comments of the professionals who examined their work and evaluating what they learned from the experience.

Photo: Pictured with the food truck projects which they put together as part of

Westerville St. Paul School’s STEM curriculum are (from left): Jacob Wisa, Alex Van Allsburg, Jack Brandt, James Zink, Kristina Noma, Colin Johnson, Ellery Monnin, and Nathaniel Gaynor.

Photo courtesy St. Paul School

Top St. Andrew School spellers

Lilly Williams of Columbus St. Andrew School (left) was one of 49 participants in the Regional Spelling Bee for the Columbus metropolitan area at Ohio University last month. Students from 122 schools in Delaware, Fairfield, Franklin, Licking, Madison, and Pickaway counties won spelling bees at their schools, then took an online exam to qualify for the regional bee. Also pictured are teacher Jennifer Johnson and Gabrielle Vonder Embse, who was champion of the St. Andrew spelling bee but chose not to participate in the regional event, allowing Williams, the runner-up, to take the qualifying exam.



Aiden Clerico of West Jefferson Middle School won the regional bee and will participate in the National Spelling Bee in Washington from May 27 to June 1. Photo courtesy St. Andrew School



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The Gift

There is a special gift given to each one of us every Sunday. It is not in a particularly lavish box. It is not adorned with bright ribbons. It has no bows. It is a simple, unobtrusive object. It brings out a most curious nature in us as we try and figure out what is inside. It is, after all, in our very nature to question what we cannot see or understand. Our gift has been tagged and sealed. We nervously and carefully open the package to reveal the most awesome and humbling of presents -- the bread of life.

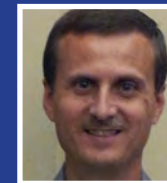
What we were looking for was the revelation and arrival of a selfish, human tactile experience. What we actually got was a single circular essence inside a small, often unalluring cup. It can take the shape of anything we wish, but in this instance, it takes on the properties most inherent in a quiet but domineering spirit. There is a conscience present that we are all striving to understand and acknowledge. The more we try to decipher it, the more distant the explanation, and the more questionable our faith becomes. Maybe that is what He wants -- for us to appreciate

the journey and not the destination so many of us try to visualize.

I admit that I am guilty of being one of those people who love to examine the mysteries of the Bible and get mired in its secrecy and characteristic objectivity. I also admit that I tend to lose interest the longer the story becomes more outrageous and unimaginable. Our survival as Catholics and Christians needs to be more focused, not just on the aspects of the gift, but on the inherent leap of faith that is required. Just believing has become something of a dime novel to most secularists. Something that cannot be relevantly explained is simply tossed aside in order for a hypothesis to be proven or born.

We forget that just because we cannot see or touch something does not mean it cannot enlighten us concerning its mystery. Much like a piece of art, each of us sees something a little different each time we look at it. This also means we can share in its beauty without preconceived belief or notion. There is always something familiar in the unknown that can unite us in ways we cannot possibly imagine. Although we may not believe in the same life, we can all respect one another and the beliefs or notions which make us all feel justified. We just need to open our hearts and minds to the fact that we are all one in the eyes of God.

Whether the gift opened is a string of pearls or a



LIGHTING THE WAY

J. P. Leo Thomas

container of sand, it doesn't matter which is the most brilliant or the least appreciated. We are given a gift anew at every Mass. What use is a vessel unless it is filled with the majesty of love and the fire of something rare and exceptional? Jesus is revealed at each Mass and opened up especially for us, to be simply taken, blessed, broken, and shared.

We are all taught to step out of our comfort zone when it comes to learning and communicating. Do we continue to just stare at the box without ever knowing what's inside? Do we as parents, godparents and children allow ourselves to be challenged by thinking outside the box? Or do we simply deny ourselves the amazing and loving gift Jesus has given us for more than 2,000 years with such grand and loving grace? It's just something to ponder on these holiest of days.

May God bless you and keep you this Easter season, may His resurrection renew our faith, and may His peace be with you always.

Joseph Thomas, a member of Gahanna St. Matthew Church, is a freelance writer and is active in many diocesan and church activities.

April is Autism Awareness Month

As Catholics, we are called to welcome all persons with disabilities. During the month of April, there is a particular emphasis on persons with autism, also known as autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

Autism is a developmental disability that can cause significant social, communication, and behavioral challenges. There is nothing about the physical appearance of people with autism that would set them apart from other people.

Persons with autism may learn, behave, react, and communicate differently than others do. Some need very little or no assistance with daily living; others require substantial support. The intellectual abilities of persons with autism can range from gifted to profoundly challenged. Autism affects every person differently, even among siblings who have autism.

Since there is a range of abilities and needs among persons with autism, parishioners need to work with each autistic person, their parents, and their families to determine the best way to include them in the life of the church.

Some parents of children with autism feel isolated and alone. They can be overwhelmed with the needs of their child and can feel stigmatized in their families and communities. As missionary disciples, we are called to a love that seeks out and embraces persons with autism and their families.

Pope St. John Paul II said this to participants at a special Jubilee for the Disabled during the Catholic Church's jubilee year of 2000:

"The church, as my venerable predecessor Paul VI liked to say, is 'a love that seeks out.' Now I would like you all to feel welcomed and embraced in her love. First of all you, dear families: those who have children with disabilities and those who share their experience. I say again to you today that I am close to you. Thank you for the witness you bear by the fidelity, strength, and patience of your love."

The Diocese of Columbus offers more information about autism and other disabilities and a list of related resources on its website. Go to www.columbus-catholic.org/persons-with-disabilities.

Episcopal and Catholic priests and marriage; Not feeling God's forgiveness



QUESTION & ANSWER

by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE
Catholic News Service

Q. It is well-known that for several centuries in the early days of the church, there were priests who were married -- including St. Peter and probably most of the other apostles. Today, if a married male Episcopal priest converts to Roman Catholicism, he can be permitted to remain married and still become a Roman Catholic priest.

So here's my question: Is there not discrimination in permitting these men to be married, while not allowing that same option to Catholic men who would like to become priests were it not for the celibacy rule? (Terre Haute, Indiana)

A. St. Peter was certainly married, because he had a mother-in-law who was healed of an illness by Jesus (Luke 4:38-39). Although we have no direct documentary evidence, it is likely that most of the other apostles were also married. (St. Paul says in 1 Corinthians 9:5, "Do we not have the right to take along a Christian wife, as do the rest of the apostles, and the brothers of the Lord, and Cephas?")

Throughout the early centuries of the church's history, clergy continued to be married, and it was not until the 11th century that celibacy became a universal requirement for priestly ordination in the Latin-rite church. (Catholic churches of the Eastern rites have continued to allow clergy to marry before their ordination.)

In 1980, a pastoral provision of Pope St. John Paul II permitted former Anglican clergy who had converted to Catholicism to be ordained as Roman Catholic priests, even though they continued to be married. That provision has since been applied in the United States to about 120 clergy -- primarily former Anglican (Episcopal) priests.

To your question, I don't see this pastoral provision as discriminating against priests like myself who have been lifelong Catholics, since we chose to commit freely to celibacy as a condition for ordination. What it does highlight, though, is that clerical celibacy is not a revealed truth but a matter of church discipline, which can always be re-evaluated

in particular situations.

An upcoming (2019) synod of Catholic bishops of the Amazon region of South America will discuss -- with the approval of Pope Francis -- the possibility of ordaining married men "of proven virtue" to minister to Catholics in that specific area of the world, where there are 10,000 Catholics for every priest. By comparison, the ratio in the U.S. is about 1,800 to one.

Q. I confessed a grave sin more than 40 years ago and received absolution for it. I have, however, been haunted by this over the years and still feel guilt. My sin was that I had taken my 16-year-old daughter to our family doctor to have an abortion. So I not only committed a serious sin myself, but caused her to do the same.

We both confessed these sins to our priest. But now I continue to be plagued by that memory. Am I committing another sin now by not trusting enough in God's mercy? (City of origin withheld)

A. No, you are not committing another sin. On the intellectual level, you acknowledge that God has forgiven you; on the emotional level, you are just having a hard time feeling God's mercy. And wrapped up in all of this are the

long-term psychological effects of abortion.

Many years ago, a young woman told me, "My roommates in college told me to have an abortion, and I did. But where are they this week, when it would have been my daughter's third birthday -- and I am all by myself to think about what that would have been like?"

But God's forgiveness is wider than we can ever imagine. I am guessing that you and I are contemporaries; and when many Catholics our own age grew up, our primary image of God was of a giant scorekeeper in the sky, keeping track of our misdeeds.

Now, though -- and thankfully -- my image of God is much different: I picture God first of all as the father of the prodigal son -- running down the road to throw his arms around his wayward child who has come back. The boy wants to pour out his story of sorrow, but the father says, "It doesn't matter now. You're home. Let's have a party."

And Jesus told that story to let us know that this is just the way his Father forgives us when we come back to him.

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

Mass for inner healing at St. Elizabeth

Father Bill Faiella, CSC, will celebrate a Mass for inner healing at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 25 at Columbus St. Elizabeth Church.

Anyone facing stress in everyday situations or because of health or other issues is invited to attend the Mass and hear Father Faiella speak in his homily about spiritual ways to respond to stress.

Father Faiella, 71, is a Columbus native and has been a member of the Holy Cross order of priests since 1979. He is director of the St. Andre Inner Healing Ministry in Phoenix, which sponsors Masses dedicated to inner healing every week at St. Paul Church in the Arizona capital.

A collection will be taken during Mass for the Holy Cross order.




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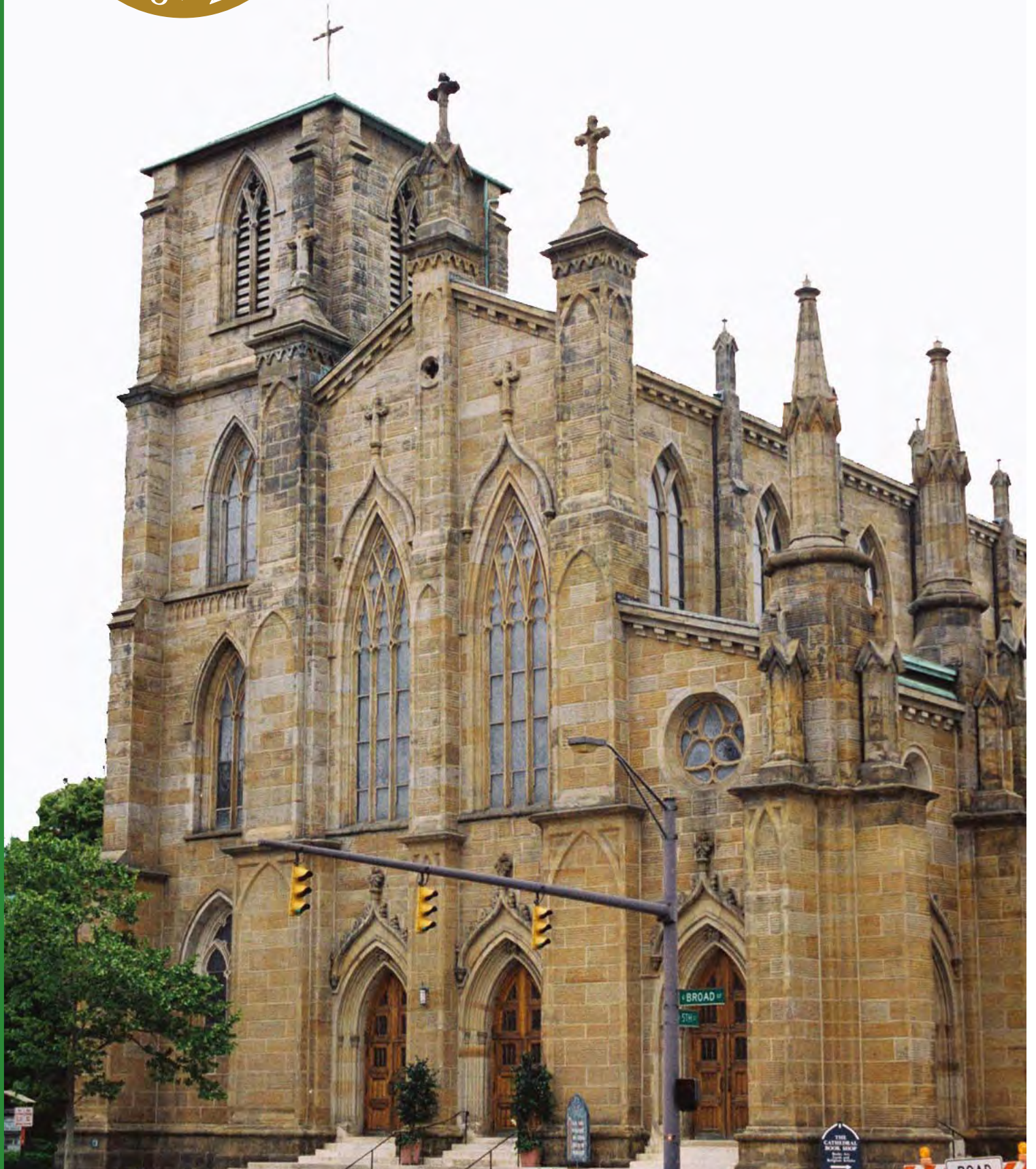
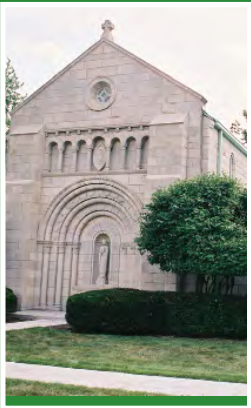
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DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

150 Years of Gratitude, Commitment and Hope



150 YEARS OF THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

BY TIM PUET, *Catholic Times Reporter*

The Diocese of Columbus celebrates its 150th anniversary this year, but Catholicism in Ohio began 60 years earlier, in 1808. It started with a letter written in Somerset by Jacob Dittoe, a Catholic who had moved to Ohio from Maryland about 10 years earlier and was eager to have his spiritual needs fulfilled.

The letter was written to Bishop John Carroll of the Diocese of Baltimore, which at the time included Ohio in its territory. Bishop Carroll responded by sending Dominican Father Edward Fenwick, OP, to Somerset from Kentucky, where Father Fenwick had started a Dominican community in 1806.

Father Fenwick celebrated the first Mass in Ohio in the fall of 1808 on the Dittoe farm near Somerset. During the next 10 years, Father Fenwick, Bishop Benedict Flaget of Bardstown, Kentucky, and Father Stephen Badin, the first Catholic priest ordained in the United States, stopped in Somerset and elsewhere in Ohio as part of missionary journeys which covered several states.



Somerset
St. Joseph
Church



The first Catholic church in Ohio, the original Somerset St. Joseph Church, was blessed on Dec. 6, 1818. It later was replaced by two larger churches. The third St. Joseph Church, dedicated in 1843 and rededicated in 1866 after a fire, continues to serve parishioners today and is one of two churches in Somerset. The other, Holy Trinity, also has a long history, going back to 1827. The Dittoe family continues to remain very involved in Catholic activities in Somerset and Columbus.

Father Fenwick brought his nephew, Father Nicholas Young, OP, with him to Somerset, where he became pastor when Father Fenwick in 1821 was

appointed the first bishop of the Diocese (now Archdiocese) of Cincinnati, which was carved out of the Diocese of Bardstown and originally included all of Ohio and Michigan and other parts of the Northwest Territory. Fathers Fenwick and Young were the first of many priests of the Dominican Order who have served the Diocese of Columbus continuously for the past two centuries.

Lancaster St. Mary, Danville St. Luke, and Junction City St. Patrick churches were founded around 1820. It took more than a decade until Columbus, the state capital, had a Catholic church of its own – St. Remigius (later replaced by the current Holy Cross), founded in 1833.

As Ohio's Catholic population grew, the Vatican reduced the size of the Cincinnati diocese, creating the Diocese of Cleveland in 1847 and the Diocese of Columbus on March 3, 1868. The Columbus diocese included 27 counties and parts of four others in central, south central, and southeast Ohio, roughly running from the Scioto River on the west to the Ohio River on the east. At the time of its founding, the new diocese had 32 parishes and 40 missions and a Catholic population of around 41,000.

The first bishop of Columbus was Bishop Sylvester Rosecrans, a native of Homer in Licking County. He was auxiliary bishop of Cincinnati when he returned to central Ohio in 1867 to become pastor of Columbus St. Patrick Church, the city's second parish, formed in 1852. The city added a third parish, St. Mary, Mother of God, in 1865.

Bishop Rosecrans established many of the institutions required in the new diocese, including parishes, schools, St. Vincent's Orphanage in Columbus (now the St. Vincent Community Center) and the first newspaper of the diocese, *The Catholic Columbian*, which began as a fundraising publication for St. Joseph Cathedral.

It took 12 years for the cathedral to be built. Plans for its construction began in 1866, work got under way in 1868, the first Masses there were celebrated on Christmas Day of 1872, and the consecration ceremony was on Oct. 20, 1878. Getting the cathedral built took a great toll on Bishop Rosecrans, who



Bishop Rosecrans (left) and Bishop Watterson

frequently suffered hemorrhages. He had four hemorrhages on the evening of the cathedral's consecration, and he died the next day. He is buried in the cathedral undercroft.

One of the priests ordained by Bishop Rosecrans was Father Joseph Jessing, who became pastor of a church in Pomeroy, which then was part of the Columbus diocese, following his ordination. Father Jessing established an orphanage in Pomeroy in 1875 and moved it to Columbus two years later. In 1888, that orphanage and industrial school added a seminary which grew into today's Pontifical College Josephinum. Pope Leo XIII gave the college the privilege of being a pontifical seminary in 1892, and it remains the only seminary outside of Italy with that distinction.

The diocese was without a bishop for more than a year from the time of Bishop Rosecrans' death until Father John Watterson, president of Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland, was appointed as his successor. He was consecrated on Aug. 8, 1880.

Bishop Watterson's 19 years as its spiritual leader were the greatest period of expansion in the diocese's history. Almost 60 new churches were built, including 25 in places where no church had existed before. In addition, construction projects were begun at nearly 50 other parishes and institutions.

A great number of these were parish schools. The bishop himself graduated from a parochial school in western Pennsylvania and was a firm believer in education, so he made it his practice to establish parish schools whenever possible.

By the time he died on April 17, 1899, there were 60,000 Catholics in the diocese. Many of them were European immigrants who found work during the late 19th century in the large industrial plants and coal mines and with the railroads that were being built in central and southern Ohio.

ANNIVERSARY, *continued from Page 8*

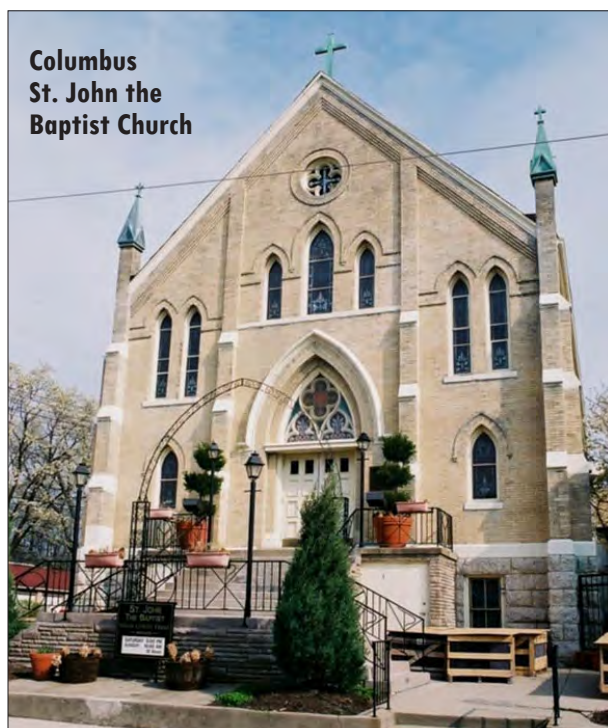
In the first years of the diocese, “German” and “Irish” churches were established in Columbus, Chillicothe, Portsmouth, and Zanesville to serve those ethnic groups. In the late 1800s, other nationalities, such as Poles, Slovaks, Italians, Hungarians, and Lithuanians wanted parishes where their language was spoken and their culture was understood.

Today, only two parishes – Columbus Santa Cruz (Spanish) and Columbus St. John the Baptist (Italian) – are officially designated as ethnic parishes. But the late 20th and early 21st centuries have seen a new wave of immigrants. A few parishes, particularly in Columbus, now have either a majority or a large number of Spanish-speaking parishioners, who have come to the United States from Mexico and Central and South America, and the diocese has an office of Latino ministry to serve them.

In addition, Sunday Masses are celebrated throughout the diocese in a multitude of languages – some of them every week, others less frequently. Besides Spanish, those languages include Ghanaian, Creole French (for Haitian immigrants), Vietnamese, Korean, Nigerian, Polish, and Portuguese (for Brazilian immigrants). The diocese is a Roman Catholic diocese, but also is part of a Byzantine Catholic eparchy and has a Melkite Catholic parish, as well as occasional Masses in the Maronite, Syro-Malabar, and Ge’ez Catholic rites.

In 1886, during the early part of Bishop Watterson’s tenure, two sisters from the Congregation of the Holy Cross were invited to Columbus to serve at a hospital being built in the Franklinton neighborhood. That four-story, 18-bed building was the start of the Mount Carmel Health network, which today serves more than a million people each year at four hospitals and a fifth which is under construction, plus many smaller facilities.

The Franklinton site has served since 1903 as the



**Columbus
St. John the
Baptist Church**

home of what was the Mount Carmel School of Nursing until 1990, when it began offering a bachelor’s degree and became a college. The college will remain in Franklinton, along with emergency, outpatient, and wellness services, after the new hospital Mount Carmel currently is building is opened in Grove City during the next two years.

Father Henry Moeller, chancellor of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, was consecrated as the third bishop of Columbus on Aug. 25, 1900. His tenure of less than three years was the shortest of any Columbus bishop, but it was said that he saved the diocese by eliminating the \$200,000 debt which had resulted from building the cathedral.

Bishop Moeller assigned each parish and mission to pay part of the debt, and each priest was expected to make a personal pledge. His efforts worked; at the same time, building was reduced drastically. Only four churches were dedicated during his time as bishop. Bishop Moeller also set parish boundaries in Franklin County, which had added so many Catholic churches that it made such regulation necessary.

Bishop Moeller was appointed coadjutor archbishop of Cincinnati on April 27, 1903. He became archbishop the following year and remained in that position until his death in early 1925.

His period of two years and eight months as the diocese’s spiritual leader was the shortest tenure for any of its bishops. His successor, Bishop James J. Hartley, spent the longest time as bishop of Columbus – nearly 40 years. He had been a priest in Steubenville, which then was part of the diocese, for 22 years before being consecrated as a bishop in that city on Feb. 25, 1904.

He remained bishop of Columbus until his death on Jan. 12, 1944, at age 85. He had links to all three of his predecessors, for he served at Bishop Rosecrans’ first Mass in the cathedral, was ordained a priest by Bishop Watterson, and was consecrated by Bishop Moeller.

In less than two years as bishop, he had completed the chief work of his predecessor. On Jan. 6, 1906, he announced that the cathedral’s debt had been paid. He then began building in earnest. In 1905, he established Columbus Holy Rosary and St. Aloysius churches. By 1910, he had begun or dedicated more than 25 churches, schools, and chapels. His devotion to parish schools can be shown by the fact that there were 37 parishes with schools when he became bishop, and 40 years later, that number had doubled to 74 elementary schools, plus 31 parish high schools.

His proudest work was the establishment of a diocesan seminary known as St. Charles Borromeo Col-



Bishop Moeller (left) and Bishop Hartley

lege in 1923. The seminary existed until 1969, and the institution continues today as St. Charles Preparatory School for boys, located since 1925 on East Broad Street just outside of downtown.

Dominican sisters from Kentucky came to Somerset to join the Dominican friars there in 1830 and have been part of the diocese ever since. After a fire in 1866 destroyed an academy they founded in Somerset, Columbus businessman Theodore Leonard offered them the land and bricks on his old brickyard if they would come to the city and relocate the academy to land near what became the St. Charles campus. They arrived in 1868 and gave the academy and their congregation the name of St. Mary of the Springs, as suggested by Bishop Rosecrans, because the former Leonard property included several natural springs.

St. Mary of the Springs Academy existed until 1966. On the same land, the Dominican sisters established St. Mary of the Springs College in 1911. That institution became Ohio Dominican College in 1968 and Ohio Dominican University in 2002. It has about 1,700 students and is the diocese’s only Catholic institution of higher learning for those not studying for the priesthood or the nursing profession.

The St. Mary of the Springs Dominicans united with seven other Dominican congregations on Easter Sunday 2009 to form the Dominican Sisters of Peace. An eighth congregation joined them in 2012. The Dominican Sisters of Peace have their general offices in Columbus and have nearly 550 members serving in 26 states, Nigeria, Honduras, and Peru.

In Columbus, approximately 75 members of the congregation live in its motherhouse, about 30 live in other locations throughout the diocese, and 43 are residents of the Mohun Health Care Center, which provides assistance for order-affiliated and diocesan priests and sisters.

Besides Ohio Dominican, other institutions established under Bishop Hartley include St. Joseph Cemetery in 1910, and St. Therese’s Retreat Center in 1931 – both in locations on the edge of Franklin County which were remote at the time and now

ANNIVERSARY, continued from Page 9

lin County which were remote at the time and now are passed by thousands of cars daily – as well as the original St. Stephen's Community House, established in 1919 on Columbus' south side.

The Catholic Columbian, which had been published by a private company since 1875, ceased publication in 1939, to be replaced the following year by the *Columbus Register*, published by the diocese, with the bishop listed as its publisher. The *Register* was one of 30 diocesan editions of the *National Catholic Register*, with a section of local news included.

Bishop Hartley's tenure coincided with what is known as the Great Migration of African Americans from the South to northern industrial cities between 1910 and 1930. During this time, the African American population of Columbus increased from 12,379 to 32,774. To meet the needs of African American Catholics, Bishop Hartley, with the assistance of St. Katherine Drexel, established Columbus St. Cyprian Church and School in 1912.

St. Cyprian Church was merged with Columbus St. Dominic Church in 1957. The St. Cyprian building was closed in 1958. Today, several Columbus parishes have a majority or a large number of African American members, including St. Dominic, Holy Rosary-St. John, St. Thomas, and Ss. Augustine & Gabriel. The latter parish also has a significant Vietnamese community.

After Bishop Hartley died, the diocese was directed for most of 1944 by Auxiliary Bishop Edward Hettinger, one of two priests who have been auxiliary bishop of Columbus. His service as a bishop lasted even longer than Bishop Hartley's – more than 54 years, from Feb. 24, 1942 to his death on Dec. 28, 1996. He retired from an active role as auxiliary bishop on Oct. 14, 1977, his 75th birthday.

He was pastor of Columbus Sacred Heart Church from 1945-78 and served as vicar general of the diocese and a diocesan consultor from the mid-1940s until retiring as auxiliary bishop. He was an auxiliary under six bishops and served as diocesan administrator when the bishop's position became vacant because of the death or transfer of five of them.

For most of the 18 years after leaving Sacred Heart, he lived in a cottage in Vinton County and served the county's Catholics at Zaleski St. Sylvester Church and the St. Francis Center in McArthur. At the time

of his death, he had been a priest for more than 68 years and was the senior priest of the diocese and the senior bishop in the American hierarchy.

Two banner headlines telling of major events shared the front page of the Nov. 24, 1944, issue of the *Columbus Register* – "Columbus Gets New Bishop" and "Diocese of Steubenville Is Established."

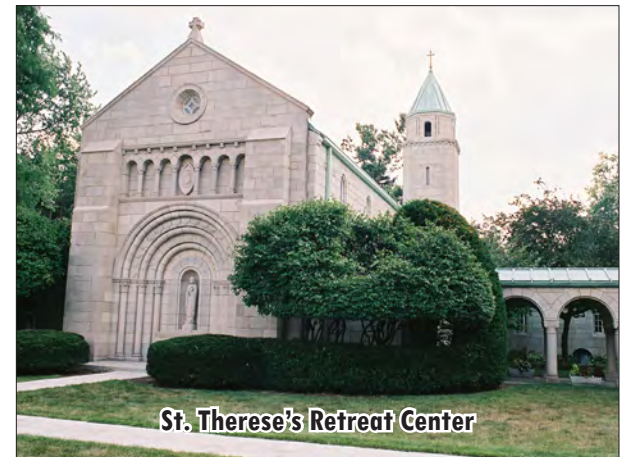
The new bishop was Msgr. Michael Ready, who came to Columbus after eight years as general secretary of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, the predecessor to today's U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. In that position, he was the unofficial spokesman for the bishops of the United States. He was known worldwide because of his participation in many international Catholic conferences, and he frequently was called on by congressional committees and President Franklin D. Roosevelt to represent the Catholic viewpoint on various legislative proposals.

The Diocese of Steubenville was formed from 13 eastern Ohio counties which had been part of the Diocese of Columbus for its first 66 years – Jefferson, Harrison, Carroll, Belmont, Guernsey, Noble, Monroe, Morgan, Washington, Athens, Meigs, Gallia, and Lawrence. At the same time the new diocese was established, the current boundaries of the Columbus diocese were created through the addition of an area which had been part of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati – all of Hardin, Marion, Union, Madison, and Fayette counties, and the portions of Pickaway, Ross, Pike, and Scioto counties west of the Scioto River.

Bishop Ready was consecrated in Washington in late 1944 and was installed as bishop of Columbus on Jan. 4, 1945. He is the last bishop of Columbus who had not already been serving as an auxiliary or a bishop elsewhere.

His 12 years in Columbus coincided with the post-World War II baby boom and the move of large numbers of people from the city core to suburban areas. The parishes founded during that time – Columbus Christ the King, Holy Spirit, Our Lady of Peace, St. Agnes, St. Andrew, St. Christopher, St. James the Less, St. Matthias, and St. Philip; Granville St. Edward; Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help; Hilliard St. Brendan; and Worthington St. Michael – all reflect this trend. With the exception of St. Edward, all are in Franklin County and most were formed in areas where houses were built rapidly from the mid-1940s through the 1950s to serve the needs of returning World War II veterans.

Catholic education also began undergoing a significant change during Bishop Ready's tenure and continued for several years thereafter. Parishes retained their elementary schools, but Bishop Ready, presented in 1950 with several patterns



St. Therese's Retreat Center

for the future of Catholic secondary education, decided to form a system of consolidated high schools for the diocese, with Msgr. Edward Spiers serving as the architect for the change.

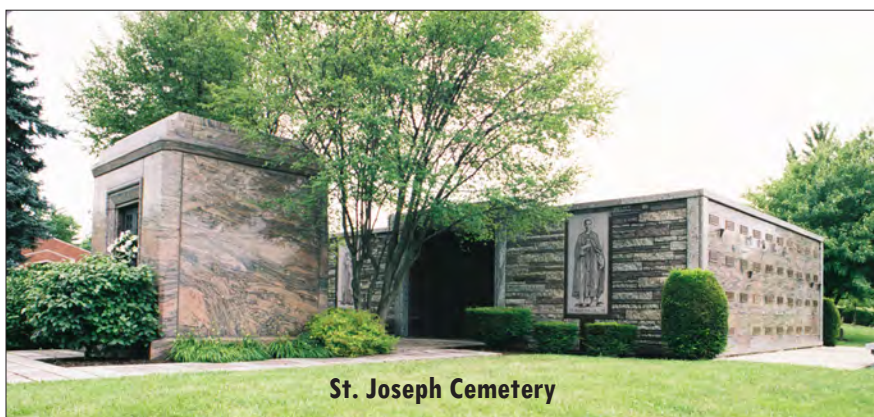
The shift began with the opening of Columbus Bishop Watterson High School in 1954, followed in the capital city by Bishop Hartley (1957), St. Francis DeSales (1960), Bishop Ready (1961), and Father Wehrle (1965, now closed). Elsewhere in the diocese, Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans High School opened in 1950, Portsmouth Notre Dame in 1952, Marion Catholic in 1956, Newark Catholic in 1958, Chillicothe Bishop Flaget in 1962, New Philadelphia Tuscarawas Central Catholic in 1970, and Lancaster Fisher Catholic in 1971.

Columbus Aquinas High School, founded by Bishop Hartley, closed in 1965, followed 12 years later by Columbus St. Joseph's Academy, founded by Bishop Rosecrans. Catholic high schools in Somerset, Delaware, and Mount Vernon closed in the 1960s, as did Bishop Flaget in 1987 (it now is an elementary school) and Marion Catholic in 2013.

Bishop Ready also organized a diocesan parent-teacher organization, the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, the Catholic Youth Council, and the St. Vincent de Paul Society. He founded two homes for the aged, as well as the Catholic Student Center (now the Newman Center) at The Ohio State University, and worked with his fellow Ohio bishops to start the Ohio Catholic Welfare Conference (now the Catholic Conference of Ohio).

In 1945, Bishop Ready established the Catholic Welfare Bureau, now Catholic Social Services, which has performed a variety of functions in assisting the poor and the vulnerable of the diocese for the past 73 years. Today, it concentrates its efforts on helping senior citizens remain independent and families thrive.

Some of its outstanding leaders have been Msgr. Lawrence Corcoran, its assistant director from 1947-60 and director from 1960-65, who served as executive secretary of the National Conference of Catholic Charities in Washington from 1965-82; Helen McDaniel, who began working with the agency in its early years and was its director from 1971-85; Donald Wisler, president and chief executive officer



St. Joseph Cemetery

ANNIVERSARY, continued from Page 10

from 2003-13; and Wisler's successor, Rachel Lustig, current president and CEO.

Bishop Ready had the current diocesan Chancery, next to the cathedral, built in 1949. The *Catholic Times* was established in 1951 as a successor to the *Register* because of the difficulties involved in having that newspaper printed in Denver, nearly 1,200 miles away, as a condition of being part of the national *Register* system.

The *Times* has continued to serve the diocese for more than 66 years as a weekly publication, printed locally except for the period from 1966-72, when it was an edition of *Our Sunday Visitor* of Huntington, Indiana, in an arrangement similar to the one it had with the *Register*. Msgr. Herman Mattingly was founding editor of both the *Register* and the *Times*, serving from 1940-54 and briefly in 1958. Michael Collins joined the *Times* as a writer in 1962 and spent his entire 42-year career in journalism with the newspaper as writer or editor before retiring on Jan. 30, 2004, just 12 days before his unexpected death.

David Garick became editor of the newspaper in 2007 and served in that position for 10 years until retiring at the end of 2017. In that time, the *Times* changed its format to more of a magazine style, with a featured cover story and several themed issues during the year. During that 10-year period, it published profiles of every parish in the diocese. It has begun a second round of such stories under its new editor, Douglas Bean, who succeeded Garick on Jan. 1.

Bishop Ready died in May 1957 and was succeeded early the following year by Auxiliary Bishop Clarence Isseemann of Cincinnati.

The "baby boomers" were beginning to send their children to school during Bishop Isseemann's seven years in Columbus, and statistics from this era reflect that. He established three high schools, brought three more to completion, and built additions at five. Also erected were seven new churches, 11 church-school buildings, four new parish schools, and eight school additions. St. Stephen's Community House moved its facilities in 1963 from Columbus' south side to the Linden area of the city's north side.

The pace of homebuilding remained strong, but more houses were being built farther from down-

town Columbus. That's indicated in the locations of the parishes founded during Bishop Isseemann's tenure – Gahanna St. Matthew, Heath St. Leonard, Lancaster St. Bernadette and St. Mark, and Reynoldsburg St. Pius X, as well as the Columbus parishes of St. Anthony, St. Stephen, and St. Timothy. To cope with the diocese's growing needs, Bishop Isseemann established the Diocesan Development Fund, now known as the Bishop's Annual Appeal.

His period as bishop not only was a time of much growth in the diocese, but also was a time of the greatest change in centuries in the Catholic Church, coinciding with most of the period from 1962-65 when the Second Vatican Council was in session.

Bishop Isseemann attended every session of the council and introduced what was known as the dialog Mass in the diocese. This was a form in which the people recited certain parts of the Latin Tridentine Mass. It served as an intermediate step that culminated in the Roman Mass in English and other languages, authorized by the council and promulgated by Pope Paul VI in 1969.

Bishop Isseemann, who was a writer and editor for the *Register* system and was editor of the Cincinnati archdiocesan newspaper, the *Catholic Telegraph*, wrote weekly reports about the council for the *Catholic Times* until he was appointed apostolic administrator of the Diocese of Cleveland in 1964. The council had completed three of its four sessions at that point. In his final *Times* column about the council, he noted that its first session was marked by uncertainty, the second by confidence, and the third by determination that the world's bishops, assembled at the Vatican, were taking the right course.

Bishop Isseemann became bishop of Cleveland in 1966, retiring in 1974. He died in 1982.

Bishop John Carberry had been bishop of the Diocese of Lafayette, Indiana, for eight years when he was appointed to the same position in Columbus in 1965. He also attended all four sessions of Vatican II. "I think the council was good for the church and the whole world," he told the *Catholic Times* at the conclusion of the final council session. "I think Pope Paul put it well when he said ... that the council 'put God before the whole world.'"

Bishop Carberry, as chairman of the U.S. bishops' committee on ecumenism, was at the forefront of efforts to form closer ties between the Catholic Church, and other Christian denominations, which was one of the principal concerns of Vatican II. He spoke in Protestant churches and at Protestant gatherings, and occasionally offered the cathedral's pulpit to Protestant clergy. He also was a founder of the Metropolitan Area Church Board, the first organization in the United States uniting Protestants and Catholics for ecumenism and social action. For this, the Ohio Council of Churches gave him its highest award.

Much of his time in Columbus was devoted to putting the liturgical changes approved by the council into effect in the diocese. For example, he was the first Columbus bishop to concelebrate a Mass. In

**Columbus
Holy Cross Church**



1966, he established a clergy advisory council and had the cathedral renovated to accommodate the changes. He also bought the current Catholic Center building at 197 E. Gay St. and began centralizing diocesan offices there. Two Columbus parishes – Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal and St. Elizabeth churches – were established during his three years as the diocese's bishop.

In 1967, Bishop Carberry and the pastors of 10 Columbus parishes established the Joint Organization for Inner-City Needs (JOIN) to help Columbus residents struggling to obtain the basic necessities of life. In its early years, it provided help to one or two families a day, but its outreach grew dramatically under Ruth Beckman, who served as its director from 1981-2015.

Today, from its offices at 578 E. Main St., JOIN aids about 25,000 people a year. Items it frequently provides include bus passes; vouchers to pay for birth certificates; assistance with utility bills and rent payments; gasoline and grocery gift cards; prescription assistance; referrals to food pantries; work shoes or boots; diapers and formula for infants; arrangements for eye exams and glasses; and referrals to food pantries, among other things. It's often said among those working with the needy in Columbus that JOIN is the first place to call when they're not sure how to solve a particular problem.

Bishop Carberry became archbishop of St. Louis in early 1968 and was appointed a cardinal a year later. He is the only Columbus bishop to achieve that distinction. He retired in 1979 and died in 1998.



Columbus St. Leo Church

ANNIVERSARY, continued from Page 11

His successor was Auxiliary Bishop Clarence Elwell of Cleveland, who as a boy in Cleveland was an altar server for his assistant pastor, Father (later Bishop) Ready.

He continued the work of implementing the reforms of Vatican II that began in the diocese under Bishop Carberry, including giving permission for Saturday evening Mass and other liturgical changes.

Bishop Elwell took a strong interest in Catholic education and worked with his fellow bishops in Ohio to foster opportunities for families to send their children to Catholic schools.

He founded Resurrection Cemetery in Columbus, and established the current St. Peter Church in the Worthington area, covering areas that had been served by Worthington St. Michael and Columbus St. Andrew churches. The original St. Peter Church, near downtown, was closed at the end of 1969.

Bishop Elwell also established the Diocesan Sisters' Council and the Diocesan Pastoral Council and moved laypersons into positions of trust, such as director of cemeteries, *Catholic Times* editor, and superintendent of buildings. Additionally, he firmed up diocesan finances by expanding the Diocesan Development Office, the Parish Aid Fund, and the diocesan self-insurance program. He died unexpectedly on Feb. 16, 1973, in his apartment in the Chancery.

Auxiliary Bishop Edward Herrmann of Washington became Columbus' ninth bishop in 1973. His service in Columbus was highlighted by support for community housing and food programs and by the reorganization of the diocese into 15 geographical groups of parishes known as vicariates.

The original 15 vicariates now number 12 and are known as deaneries. The reorganization occurred because one of Bishop Herrmann's principal goals was to promote the flow of information and association within the diocese, which is the largest in Ohio in terms of area, so that the people of its 23 counties could get to know each other better.

In 1977, the first of the Seton Square housing complexes for low-income senior citizens and people with mobility impairment opened in Columbus. There now are 14 Seton Squares throughout the diocese, housing more than 1,000 people. Four are in Franklin County, with others in Dover (which has two), London, Kenton, Marion, Washington Court House, Wellston, Zanesville, Lancaster, and Coshocton. They are sponsored by the diocese and managed by BRC Properties Inc.



Resurrection Cemetery

Both Bishop Herrmann and Auxiliary Bishop George Fulcher, who served in Columbus from 1976-83, were known for their social activism.

In 1981, as the nation's economy faltered, Bishop Herrmann noticed that food pantries and social service agencies could not meet people's needs and that more people were lining up at the back door of the cathedral to receive food every day (the food distribution has continued uninterrupted for decades). He convened a meeting of community leaders to address the concern, and was able to bring together a variety of viewpoints on the subject because of the credibility he had built up.

The meeting ultimately led to creation of the annual Operation Feed campaign, which now is sponsored by the Mid-Ohio Foodbank and provides millions of meals every year to the hungry of Franklin County.

Bishop Herrmann was a strong proponent of the canonization of St. Elizabeth Seton, the first American-born saint, and attended her canonization ceremony in Rome in 1975. Three years later, he designated her as patroness of a new parish in Pickerington. This was the only parish founded while he was bishop, but the preparatory work for two other large suburban parishes in New Albany and Sunbury also began during his tenure. Columbus Holy Rosary Church was sold in 1979 and its congregation was combined with that of Columbus St. John the Evangelist Church.

Bishop Herrmann retired in September 1982 and moved back to the Washington area for nine years, but came back to Columbus in 1991 to continue his ministry as a priest and bishop emeritus. He had a stroke in 1995 and moved to the former St. Raphael's Home for the Aged, where he died in late 1999.

Bishop Fulcher was pastor of the cathedral when he was appointed an auxiliary bishop in 1976. He had been founding pastor of Columbus St. Anthony Church from 1963-75 and had served at several parishes in the preceding 15 years. From 1958-67, he was editor of the *Catholic Times*, where he was noted for his hard-hitting editorials expressing the principles of Catholic social teaching. He also taught theology at the Josephinum for 27 years, and, like Bishop Herrmann, regularly attended ecumenical gatherings.

He was on the committee that wrote the

U.S. bishops' pastoral letter titled *The Challenge of Peace: God's Promise and Our Response*, which urged nuclear disarmament and was written in 1983.

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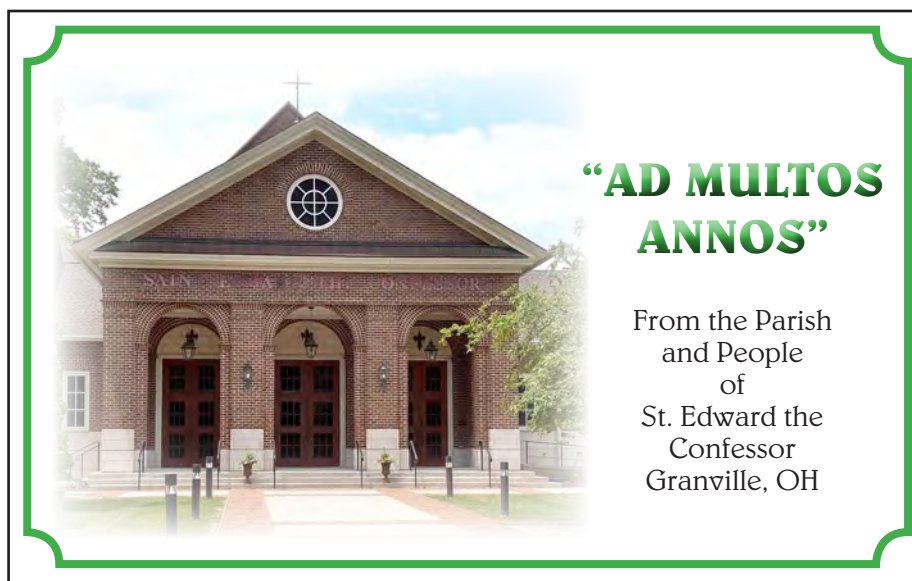


Kenton
Immaculate
Conception
Parish
proudly
congratulates
The Diocese
of Columbus
on its Anniversary



*Congratulations on the Anniversary
of the Columbus Diocese*

From Our Lady of Victory Parish



**"AD MULTOS
ANNOS"**

From the Parish
and People
of
St. Edward the
Confessor
Granville, OH

ANNIVERSARY, continued from Page 14

In that same year, he was appointed bishop of Lafayette, Indiana, a position he held for less than a year. He died when his car left the road, crashed and burned in western Indiana on Jan. 25, 1984.

Auxiliary Bishop James Griffin of Cleveland was appointed as Bishop Herrmann's successor in 1983. Within a year of his installation, he had visited every parish and school in the diocese. In 1984, he formed the secretariat system to oversee diocesan departments and programs. This enabled him to focus more of his time and efforts on his role as shepherd and pastor of the diocese.

In 1985, he initiated a process of planning and consultation to determine the direction of the diocese for the rest of the 20th century. All the diocese's parishes and geographic vicariates conducted consultations that led to the publication in 1988 of a diocesan plan titled *Called by Faith, Committed to the Future*.

Bishop Griffin also instituted a vicariate planning process, in which the people of the vicariates determined how parishes within vicariates would work together to better serve their communities, the diocese, and the church.

In 1984, he established The Catholic

Foundation of the Diocese of Columbus to provide for the diocese's long-term needs. The Foundation manages more than 1,100 endowment funds, including nearly 250 donor advised funds. Nearly 90 percent of grants from these funds benefit parishes, schools, and ministries throughout the diocese. Other funds managed by the Foundation include charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts, and scholarships.

In fiscal 2017, the Foundation distributed 1,521 grants totaling more than \$13 million. Since its inception, gifts to the Foundation have totaled more than \$200 million and it has granted more than \$113 million, with most gifts and grants coming in the last five years. The Foundation has more than \$185 million in assets, making it the nation's third-largest organization of its type.

Bishop Griffin also initiated the Legacy of Catholic Learning campaign in 1989 and the Challenge in Changing Times campaign in 2000 to help meet the educational and future needs of the diocese, and helped initiate a communitywide, faith-based task force titled "Breaking the Silence" that worked to reduce domestic violence.

For 10 years, the diocese shared Bishop Griffin with the world through his work with Catholic Relief Services. He joined the agency in 1985 and served as its president from 1991-95. During his time with CRS, he visited 50 nations. He also was a member of several committees of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

In his 21 years as the diocese's spiritual leader, a tenure second in length among Columbus bishops only to Bishop Hartley's 40 years, central Ohio continued to grow in population because of its education, research, government, insurance, and banking institutions, while other areas of the state which were more dependent on manufacturing were becoming less populated.

Dramatic growth in particular occurred in northwest Franklin and southern Delaware counties, leading to the establishment of the New Albany Church of the Resurrection and Sunbury St. John Neumann Church in 1983, Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare and Powell St. Joan of Arc churches in 1987, and Canal Winchester St. John XXIII Church in 2000.

St. Brigid of Kildare and St. Joan of

Arc have become two of the four parishes in the diocese with the largest number of families. The largest is Westerville St. Paul Church, once a rural parish which covered a large portion of northern Franklin and southern Delaware counties. It now has a membership of 4,500 families, who worship in a building dedicated in 2011 which has more than 22,000 square feet of worship space and seating for 1,400 people.

The same trends which led to suburban growth resulted in a population loss for Columbus St. Augustine and St. Gabriel churches, leading to the combining of those two congregations in 1984 and the closing of St. Gabriel Church. Zoar Holy Trinity Church was built in 1995, combining the congregations of Bolivar St. Stephen, Strasburg St. Aloysius, and Mineral City St. Patrick churches. Columbus St. Leo Church, an offshoot of St. Mary, Mother of God Church, was merged back into St. Mary in 1999. It remains open and available for special services because of the dedication of laypersons who have continued to maintain it for the past two decades.

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Congratulations to the Diocese of Columbus!



Columbus St. Patrick Church
Pro-Cathedral of the Diocese
from 1868-1872,
and together
from the beginning

St. Patrick Church, Dominican Fathers
280 N. Grant Avenue
Columbus, OH 43215

ANNIVERSARY, continued from Page 15

The Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm, who came to Columbus in 1948 to operate the former St. Raphael's and St. Rita's homes for the aged, opened the Villas at St. Therese to replace those facilities. The villas include areas for assisted living, opened in 1999 and managed by the sisters, and for independent living, opened in 2001 and under the same management as Seton Square. The sisters also opened Mother Angeline McCrory Manor, a skilled nursing care facility, in 2004. Like the villas, it is adjacent to St. Therese's Retreat Center on Columbus' far east side.

Bishop Griffin announced his retirement on Oct. 14, 2004, saying limitations caused by age and arthritis detracted from the energy necessary to serve as bishop. He has lived in Powell for the past 13 years and continues to serve the diocese as a weekend assistant at St. Joan of Arc Church. He also is a concelebrant with his successor, Bishop Frederick Campbell, at Masses, ordinations and the funerals of priests.

At his retirement announcement, Bishop Griffin said that Bishop Campbell, who had been auxiliary bishop of St. Paul-Minneapolis, had been appointed to succeed him and become the 11th bishop of the diocese. Bishop Campbell had been a priest since 1980 and a bishop since 1999, after serving as an associate pastor for seven years and a pastor for 12 years. At the time of his appointment, he had been rector of the St. Paul Seminary School of Divinity of the University of St. Thomas for two years. His arrival in Columbus was actually a return to the city for him, since he had been a graduate student in history at The Ohio State University and a history professor at the Josephinum several years earlier.

In his installation homily in early 2005, he said he was praying that God grant him the grace "to teach the meaning of the Church of Christ with clarity, persuasiveness, a good humor when appropriate and a forcefulness when necessary, inviting all that I meet to consider the treasure that we possess in earthen vessels. I pray also that God make me a reflection of the charity that flowed from the heart of Christ onto the dust of our life to awaken new hope."

One of the largest Catholic gatherings in the diocese's history occurred in 2007, two years after Bishop Campbell's installation, as 20,000 young people from across the nation came to Columbus in November and filled Nationwide Arena for the National Catho-

lic Youth Conference.

In his 13 years as the spiritual shepherd of the 23 counties of the Diocese of Columbus, Bishop Campbell, like many bishops across the United States, has faced challenges related to a significant reduction in the number of priests.

At the time of its 100th anniversary in 1968, the diocese had 334 priests. When Bishop Campbell was installed in 2005, it had 179 priests, including 122 in active service. Today, those numbers are 147 and 97 respectively, with many priests at or near retirement age. The diocese also has 36 priests who are members of religious orders serving within its boundaries, as well as 114 permanent deacons and 225 religious sisters.

There also had been a decline in the number of seminarians for several years, but that trend seems to have been reversed. Currently, 36 men are studying for the diocesan priesthood. Five of them are to be ordained in May.

Like Bishop Griffin two decades earlier, Bishop Campbell saw the need to plan for the future of the diocese so that it could make the best use of its resources. In 2008, he created a diocesan pastoral and strategic planning committee, with representatives from groups including the diocesan presbyteral, diaconal, pastoral, and finance councils, the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, educational institutions, and health care ministries.

He also asked each parish to conduct a self-study to examine its needs. In the decade since those studies were completed, several parishes have been grouped into clusters, served by one priest or a group of priests at a central location. This continued a trend which began in 1986 with creation of the Perry County Consortium of Parishes, with churches in New Lexington, Crooksville, Junction City, and Corning.

Altogether, the diocese has 20 such clusters of two to five parishes, including six clusters in Columbus. The largest of these groupings in terms of geographic area includes parishes in Chillicothe, Waverly, Washington Court House, and Zaleski, covering more than 50 miles from one end to the other.

Bishop Campbell dedicated new church buildings at West Jefferson Sts. Simon & Jude in 2006, Johnstown Church of the Ascension in 2007, and Westerville St. Paul Church in 2011. The most recent church dedication was at Cardington Sacred Hearts Church in

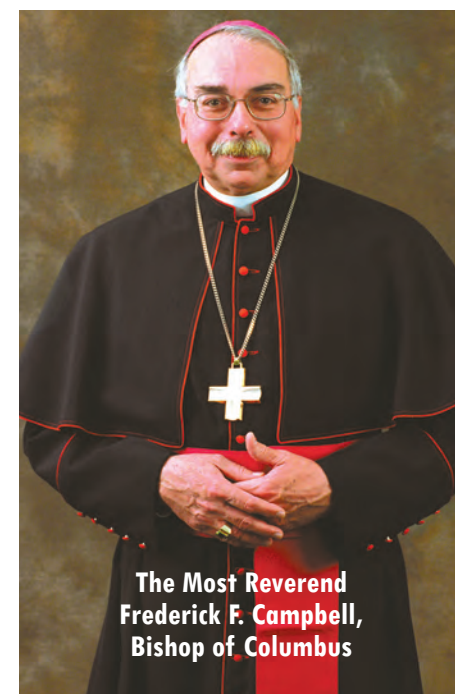
2015, two years after a fire destroyed the previous church building and hall.

The Utica Church of the Nativity was closed in 2016, one year after the church building was torn down because of structural issues. It was merged into Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul Church, with some parishioners also transferring to nearby parishes in Newark and Johnstown. Columbus St. Mary, Mother of God Church is being rebuilt after a lightning strike in August 2016 exposed significant damage to the 150-year-old building's roof, ceiling, brick exterior, and a wall.

Cristo Rey Columbus High School opened in 2012 as the diocese's first new high school in more than 40 years. It has about 400 students in four grades.

In 2017, Catholic Social Services opened its expanded Our Lady of Guadalupe Center to better serve the Hispanic community and other residents of Columbus' west side. The 3,500-square-foot location has triple the space of the center's previous site and includes a food pantry and office and meeting space for job mentoring, language classes, nutrition and health programs, and other activities.

The diocese has grown in 150 years from 32 parishes with 41,000 Catholics at its founding to 105 parishes with about 280,000 people today – a number that is expected to keep growing in the coming years to match the continuing population growth in the region.



The Most Reverend
Frederick F. Campbell,
Bishop of Columbus

Bishop Rosecrans consecrated the diocese to the Sacred Heart of Jesus in 1873, and Bishop Campbell led a ceremony of reconsecration in June 2015.

As the diocese recalls its first 150 years, it looks to the next 150 and beyond, secure in the knowledge that, as Jesus said in Matthew's Gospel in his last words to his disciples before ascending to heaven, "Behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."

(Material from "An Illustrated History of the Diocese of Columbus" by Donald M. Schlegel and the archives of the Columbus Register and the Catholic Times was used extensively in preparation of this special issue of the Times.)

Immaculate Conception Parish

congratulates the

DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

on its sesquicentennial anniversary. May
our Diocese continue to
grow in faith and
mission for many
years to come!



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Catholic education in the Diocese of Columbus began in 1830

BY TIM PUET

Reporter, *Catholic Times*

Catholic education has been a part of the Diocese of Columbus since long before the diocese was formed in 1868. Zanesville St. John the Evangelist School was the first parish school in Ohio, the same year, the Dominican Sisters opened St. Mary's Academy for girls in Somerset.

Catholic schools in the United States always have offered a unique education in which all subjects are taught with a Catholic perspective.

Through the 19th and early 20th centuries, they also were a strong bulwark against anti-Catholic biases that existed in some parts of society. In the last several decades, attitudes toward Catholic education have changed as people of all faiths have recognized the importance of an education based on religious values. Now, many Catholic schools have a significant number of non-Catholic students because of their moral focus and because they consistently score above the average on state and national tests.

Other early Catholic parochial schools in the diocese included Zanesville St. Nicholas, founded in 1842, Columbus St. Remigius (1843), St. Peter in Tuscarawas County (1844), Lancaster St. Mary (1847), and Columbus St. Patrick, Logan St. John, Dover St. Joseph, and Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul (the 1850s).

Most teachers in the early Catholic schools were laypersons paid by parents and parishioners. Beginning in the 1850s, congregations of sisters were growing and began to staff the schools. For the next century, sisters provided the vast majority of teachers in the nation's Catholic schools.

The most prominent of these congregations in the Diocese of Columbus was the Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs, now the Dominican Sisters of Peace, who moved their girls academy from Somerset to Columbus in 1868 after a fire destroyed the Somerset building two years earlier. The academy, renamed as St. Mary of the Springs after the move, closed in 1966, but the land originally donated for its use now houses the congregation's motherhouse, Ohio Dominican University, the Mohun Health



Care Center, and the Martin de Porres Center, all of which are connected with the sisters.

Other congregations of sisters who taught in Columbus diocesan schools for decades include the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, of Cincinnati; the Sisters of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity, of Stella Niagara, New York; the Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate, of Joliet, Illinois; the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth, Kentucky; and the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity, of Manitowoc, Wisconsin.

Nearly every large parish in the diocese, and many small ones, had an elementary school during the 20th century. Msgr. John J. Murphy served as diocesan school superintendent for a record 38-year tenure from 1909-47. The elementary school population of the diocese peaked at about 25,000 in the mid-1960s, the height of the "baby boom" era, when the diocese had 70 elementary schools.

Today, because of school consolidations and closings, there are 42 diocesan elementary schools, with a student population of about 10,500. In addition, 4,700 students are enrolled in the 11 diocesan high schools. About one-fourth of the students in both the elementary and high schools are not Catholic.

Because the number of religious sisters has declined and their roles have changed in the 50 years since the Second Vatican Council, the teaching staff of diocesan elementary and high schools consists almost exclusively of laypersons. In addition, the number of elementary-school children receiving religious instruction outside of the

parochial schools in weekly Parish School of Religion classes has grown from 2,300 in 1950 to xx,000 today.

In addition to the parochial schools, several private schools and academies in the diocese have existed over the years. Most were short-lived. Two of the most notable of these schools were St. Joseph's Academy in Columbus, founded by the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur in 1875, which was closed in 1977 but retains its identity in St. Joseph Montessori School, and St. Aloysius Academy in New Lexington, which was opened in 1876 and closed in 1969.

Bishop James Hartley opened St. Charles Borromeo College as a seminary to train diocesan priests in 1923. The seminary was closed in 1969, but it retained the high school courses it had been offering. Today, it continues as a high school for boys known as St. Charles Preparatory School.

The history of secondary-school education in the diocese can be divided into the era of parish high schools, which lasted into the mid-1950s, and the era of consolidated schools, which began in 1954 with the opening of Columbus Bishop Watterson High School (*pictured*) and continues into today.

Around 1950, it had become apparent that parish high schools were unable to provide the facilities, experiences, and opportunities offered by larger institutions. Columbus Our Lady of Victory High School had closed its boys department in the mid-1940s, parish high schools in New Straitsville, Shawnee, Wellston, and Corning had closed in the 1930s and '40s, and Columbus Corpus Christi

High School closed in 1951,

Bishop Michael Ready examined several possible patterns for the future of Catholic secondary education and decided on the model of large, consolidated schools, with students attending from multiple parishes, to replace the five parish-based high schools in Columbus and similar schools elsewhere in the diocese.

Msgr. Edward Spiers was in charge of the changeover. He was the first principal at Watterson, and supervised the other schools which followed – Bishop Hartley (1957), St. Francis DeSales (1960), Bishop Ready (1961), and Father Wehrle (1965, now closed), all in Columbus; Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans in 1950, Portsmouth Notre Dame in 1952, Marion Catholic in 1956, Newark Catholic in 1958, Chillicothe Bishop Flaget in 1962, New Philadelphia Tuscarawas Central Catholic in 1970, and Lancaster Fisher Catholic in 1971.

Columbus Aquinas High School, founded by Bishop Hartley, closed in 1965, followed in 1966 by St. Mary of the Springs Academy and in 1977 by St. Joseph's Academy. Catholic high schools in Delaware and Mount Vernon, along with St. Aloysius Academy, closed in the 1960s, as did Bishop Flaget in 1987 (it now is an elementary school) and Marion Catholic in 2013.

Most of the large parishes which opened after the mid-1960s did not include an elementary school. Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare was an exception, with its school opening in 1996.

Cristo Rey Columbus High School, the newest school in the diocesan system, opened in 2012 as the diocese's first new high school in more than 40 years. It is based on a model created in 1996 by Jesuit priests to meet the needs of working-class families in Chicago's Pilsen neighborhood who wanted to give their children a vision beyond what was available in the low-income area where they lived.

Working in cooperation with area businesses and nonprofit agencies, the Cristo Rey work-study model gives low-income students a chance to work at entry-level jobs in those organizations for one day each week, giving them an opportunity they might not otherwise be able to obtain.

**THE PARISHES OF
THE WESTSIDE DEANERY**
Las Parroquias de la Westside Deanery

Salute/Saludan

THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS
a la Diocesis de Columbus

On Its/En Sus

150TH ANNIVERSARY
150 Años de Aniversario
1868-2018

Holy Family
EST. 1877

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Grove City
EST. 1954

Ss. Simon and Jude, West Jefferson
EST. 1866

Saint Agnes
EST. 1954

Saint Aloysius
EST. 1906

Saint Cecilia
EST. 1882

Saint Joseph, Plain City
EST. 1864

Saint Mary Magdalene
EST. 1928

Saint Patrick, London
EST. 1865

Saint Stephen the Martyr
EST. 1964



The Weekday Bible Readings

MONDAY

Acts 6:8-15
Psalm 119:23-24,26-27, 29-30
John 6:22-29

TUESDAY

Acts 7:51-8:1a
Psalm 31:3cd-4,6ab,7b,8a,17,21ab
John 6:30-35

WEDNESDAY

Acts 8:1b-8
Psalm 66:1-3a,4-7a
John 6:35-40

THURSDAY

Acts 8:26-40
Psalm 66:8-9,16-17,20
John 6:44-51

FRIDAY

Acts 9:1-20
Psalm 117:1-2
John 6:52-59

SATURDAY

Acts 9:31-42
Psalm 116:112-17
John 6:60-69

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEK OF APRIL 15, 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

Third Sunday of Easter (Cycle B)

Jesus can be with us despite any obstacle

By **Kevin Perrotta**/Catholic News Service

Acts 3:13-15,17-19; 1 John 2:1-5a; Luke 24:35-48

If you ever watched the film *Wait Until Dark*, it's hard to forget the scene in which thuggish, knife-wielding Alan Arkin suddenly springs toward blind, alone-in-her-kitchen-at-night Audrey Hepburn.

What a moment! One reviewer called it "a terrific jolt." For the way it reliably induces screams in the audience, my wife deems it the perfect preteen girls' sleepover movie.

The scene comes to mind when I hear today's Gospel. On Easter evening, the disciples were in a room, talking. All at once, "while they were still speaking," Jesus "stood in their midst." They were "terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost." St. Luke doesn't say they screamed, but I bet they did.

The irony is that Jesus' first words to them were "Peace be with you." Peace was not what they felt!

Maybe there's an entry into the Gospel here for us. When we hear "Peace be with you," do we feel peace? I know, peace is more than a feeling. But it is something we can feel. And we certainly know the feeling of not being at peace.

The reasons we're not at peace are various: a boy in our parish is in the intensive care unit waiting for a heart transplant, a woman is reaching out to an attorney because her husband is threatening to di-

voice her, a friend ... but do I need to compose a list?

We're familiar with the problems that rob us of peace. Some are in our circumstances, others are inside us -- regrets over how we raised our children, guilt over ... but there I go again, making an unnecessary list.

With such obstacles, can we experience peace?

Today's readings point toward the removal of the biggest obstacle. Jesus is "the expiation of our sins," the second reading tells us. "Repent, therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be wiped away," St. Peter says in the first reading. (How far is the nearest confessional?)

But what about the things that are not going to be changed right away, or ever, or that it is too late to change? In anxiety or sorrow, in sickness or need, is peace possible?

Peace is in Jesus. And Jesus is able to be with us despite any obstacle, as he showed by being suddenly, terrifyingly, really present with his disciples on that Easter evening.

After they recovered from their shock, they were "incredulous for joy."

Reflection Question:

In some unexpected way, Jesus wants to reveal himself to you. Are you willing to respond?

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

Mini-retreat for student athletes to take place at St. Cecilia

The St. Cecilia Athletic Association is sponsoring a two-day mini-retreat for student-athletes of all ages and their coaches and parents.

The program, titled "Keeping the Faith: Why We Play, Coach, and Cheer," will take place from 3 to 4 p.m. on April 22 and 29, both Sundays, in the parish activity center of Columbus St. Cecilia Church, 434 Norton Road. Registration will begin at 2:30 and refreshments will be available.

Featured speakers will be Dr. Jeff Ankrom, assistant provost at Otterbein University, for the first session and Stephanie Zonars, assistant athletic direc-

tor and senior women's administrator at Cedarville University, for the second. Student-athletes from The Ohio State University also will participate.

The administrators and athletes on the program will talk about how they have used their talents to serve and evangelize for Christ and will offer participants tips on how to keep their faith strong while playing, coaching, or cheering at home, away, or at school.

Admission is free, and no registration is needed. For more information, contact Katie Wohrle at (614) 878-5353.

Children of Mary visit Coshocton youth

Sisters from the Children of Mary in Licking County visited the youth group of Coshocton Sacred Heart Church to discuss their lives and their call to Christ. The sisters also met with parishioners after a recent Sunday Mass. Sisters pictured are (from left) Sister Philomena Maria, Sister Antonetta Maria, and Sister Mary Consolata.

Photo courtesy Sacred Heart Church



Pray for our dead

BEACHLER, Richard J., 90, April 3
Our Lady of Peace Church, Columbus

BREHM, Paul D., 69, April 6
St. Catherine Church, Columbus

CRITES, Joseph, 67, April 5
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

CURTIS, Sandra L. (Bean), 79, March 31
St. John Neumann Church, Sunbury

DARBY, Patty (Snow), 81, March 31
St. Cecilia Church, Columbus

DURBIN, Charles G., 63, April 4
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

EISEL, Carole Ann, 79, April 5
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

ELLIOTT, Mary (Reynolds), 65, April 4
St. Joseph Church, Circleville

FALASCA, Armando, 85, April 3
Our Lady of Victory Church, Columbus

GREENLEE, MARY, 69, April 5
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany

HENTERLY, John R., 97, April 4
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

IMBER, Richard E., 59, April 4
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

LANSKI, Joseph, April 1
St. Peter Church, Columbus

LONG, Rosella A. (Melfi), 86, April 3
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany

MARTINA, Michael A., 90, April 3
Our Lady of Victory Church, Columbus

MERCURIO, Mark, 59
St. Patrick Church, Columbus

O'KEEFE, Isabelle M., 95, April 18
St. Mary Church, Marion

PICKENPAUGH, Teresa M., 74, April 17
St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

RODICHOK, Randal, 76, April 7
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

SIEFERT, Sydney C., 17, April 21
St. Joan of Arc Church, Powell

WILHITE, Terry L., 64, April 21
St. Mary Magdalene Church, Columbus

Paul Douglas Brehm

Funeral Mass for Paul "Bear" Brehm, 69, who died Friday, April 6, at his home, was celebrated Wednesday, April 11, at St. Catherine Church in Columbus. Burial will be at a later date.

He was a longtime head boys soccer coach at Bexley High School, winning state and regional honors, and then the varsity girls soccer coach at Columbus Bishop Hartley. He also coached youth sports and helped develop the girls program with the Columbus East Soc-

cer Association.

He spent most of his life in the Columbus area, working as a graphic designer and artist. He was a graduate of Bishop Hartley.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Paul and Jeanne Brehm. Survivors include his wife of 46 years, Susan; son, Andy (Bethany) Brehm; daughter, Nikki (Mark) Watts; sister, Connie (Benny) Stewart; brother, David Brehm; and five grandchildren.

Director of Liturgical Music ~ Part-Time

Our Lady of Peace Parish in Columbus, Ohio, is seeking a part-time director of liturgical music. Under the supervision of the pastor and in collaboration with other members of the pastoral team, the director would be responsible for the music at all parish liturgies, for training and supervising other parish musicians, and for directing the adult choir and the children choristers.

The director would be proficient in organ and in leading congregational singing and knowledgeable of Catholic liturgy.

Employment would be contingent on the successful passing of the mandatory background screening and completion of the VIRTUS "Protecting God's Children" course.

For a more detailed job description or to submit a resume, please contact:

Reverend Monsignor John G. Johnson
614.263.8824 • olppastor@rroho.com

Sister Mary Irene Lolli, OP

Funeral Mass for Sister Mary Irene Lolli, OP, 92, who died Sunday, April 1 at the Mohun Health Care Center in Columbus, was celebrated Thursday, April 5 at the Motherhouse of the Dominican Sisters of Peace. Burial will be at a later date at Strafford, Pennsylvania.

She was born Maria Lolli in Strafford in 1925 to Sante and Irene (Pachioli) Lolli, and earned a bachelor of arts degree in 1962 from the College of St. Rose in Albany, New York, and a master of theological studies degree in 1982 from the Franciscan School of Theology in Berkeley, California.

She entered the congregation of the Dominican Sisters of St. Catherine

de' Ricci (now the Dominican Sisters of Peace) in Media, Pennsylvania, in 1950, and professed her vows on Aug. 4, 1952. She was its secretary general from 1966-72. She also performed retreat ministry in Pennsylvania, New York, and New Mexico, and was a pastoral minister in Florida, New York, and Michigan. She retired in 2002 and entered a ministry of prayer and presence at the Mohun center in 2013.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brother, Louis; and sisters, Angela Vidinsky and Rosemary DeSanto. Survivors include a brother, Lawrence; and a sister, Lucy Rankin.

Send obituaries to tpuet@columbuscatholic.org



AM 820

CATHOLIC RADIO



Lend an ear!



Claver auxiliary donates layettes

The Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary Court 298 donated 60 layettes to the Columbus Christ Child Society. Court 298 members donate baby clothes and care items each year to the Christ Child Society, which provides the layettes to mothers in need. Pictured are (from left) Christ Child Society representative Lori Caldwell and Court 298 members Bernitta Dawson, Colleen Cannell, Grace Neely, and Lannell Wade.

Photo courtesy Court 298

Knights of Peter Claver to host conference

Columbus St. Cyprian Council and Court 298 of the Knights of Peter Claver and Ladies Auxiliary will host the organization's Northern District conference from Thursday to Sunday, April 26 to 29 at the Doubletree Hotel, 175 Hutchinson Ave., Worthington.

Nearly 500 members of the organization will take part in the event, which will conclude with a Mass celebrated in the hotel's grand ballroom by Bishop Frederick Cmapbell at 8:30 a.m. Sunday, April 29. The members also will contribute to a local charitable organization during the conference.

The Knights of Peter Claver is the largest historically African American Catholic lay organization in the United States and is named for St. Peter Claver, a Spanish priest who ministered to African slaves. It was founded in 1909 in Mobile, Alabama, and is based in New Orleans. It is divided into six districts in the United States and one in the South American nation of Colombia.

Its purposes are to render service to God and the church, aid the needy and the disabled, improve social justice, award scholarships, support education, and develop young people in a positive and nurturing environment.

Friends and Family Day at Ss. Augustine & Gabriel

Columbus Ss. Augustine & Gabriel Church, 1550 E. Hudson St., will host a Friends and Family Day Mass at 10 a.m. Sunday, April 29, followed by a potluck lunch. Current parishioners, friends, neighbors, and former residents of the parish are invited and are asked to bring a dish to share.

For more information, call the parish at (614) 268-3123.

St. Andrew Daisy Scout troop



Members of Daisy Scout Troop 6013 at Columbus St. Andrew Church are pictured with Father Anthony Davis, parochial vicar, on Girl Scout Sunday last month. They are (from left): Agatha Foley, Geneva Hendershot, Eloise Hendershot, Blythe Susi, Annie McAllister, Lina Kaleta, Marissa Stephenson, and Mary Jaminet. The Daisy program is the youngest level of Girl Scouting and is for girls ages five to seven.

Photo courtesy St. Andrew Church

Music in a Country Church

This season's final program of the "Music in a Country Church" series at Washington Court House St. Colman of Cloyne Church, 219 S. North St., will feature parish music Director Craig Jaynes in a solo concert titled "Playing with the Big Boys" at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 15.

The program will feature major works by Bach, Franck, and Widor, as well as lighter selections from Weaver, Sullivan, Shelley, Utterback, Strayhorn, MacGimsey, and Kern/Nalle.

Tickets for open seating may be purchased for \$10 at the door. Reserved seats are available only to season ticket holders. Doors will open at 2:30.

This will be Jaynes' first solo performance during the five-year-old series. He is in his 55th year as a practicing church musician and his 13th year at St. Colman. Previous concerts in the series have featured the organ in combination with choirs, brass quintets, a woodwind quintet, percussion, strings, and a variety of soloists.

Last year, guest organist Christopher Urbiel of Newark St. Francis de Sales Church presented a well-received and enjoyable solo program. The first of this season's two con-

certs, which was a presentation of Mozart's *Requiem*, was performed with choir, soloists, and orchestra. The organ was not used for that program.

"I've tried to program a wide variety of music and instrumental combinations so that folks could experience the breath of musical expression available to us. While the organ is 'my' instrument, I did not want to limit our offerings to that vehicle alone. This concert will be the exception rather than the rule," Jaynes said.

"Since a solo organ program is rare for us, I also wanted to make sure that variety was maintained and have chosen not only from the great composers for the instrument, which is where the title comes from, but also from other sources with which there is some history of association with the instrument.

"The process of choosing has been delightful fun for me, and particularly enjoyable when I've been able to pick things that also have a strong personal connection. When you've been doing this as long as I have, there are usually a lot of those."

For more information about the concert, call (937) 675-7055.

Patriarch Kirill and Mr. Putin

The annals of sycophancy are, alas, replete with examples of churchmen toadying to political power. Here in the United States, we've seen too much of that among certain evangelical leaders recently. In today's Sycophancy Sweepstakes, however, it's hard to top Kirill, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia.

Last Dec. 1, after President Vladimir Putin addressed a meeting of the Episcopal Council of the Russian Orthodox Church, Patriarch Kirill concluded his thanks in these cringe-inducing terms:

"There is nothing more serious and important than moral consensus within society. If there is consensus on the main moral values, then all other social relationships are formed harmoniously ... and political practice corresponds to the interests of the people.

"... I express my gratitude to you for the dialogue we hold together ... and for the atmosphere of openness in which our society lives today. I believe that this openness will be the pledge for the certain success of our Fatherland in the near and distant future.

"... I would like to wish you, much esteemed Vladimir Vladimirovich, long years of life, good health, and God's aid in the lofty mission the Lord has entrusted to you through the will of the people. ... May the Lord preserve you!"

In the dialogue that the Catholic Church conducts with Russian Orthodoxy, perhaps it would be useful to clarify the following points.



THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE George Weigel

Does the "political practice" rooted in "moral values" to which the patriarch referred include the assassination of Putin's political opponents, such as Boris Nemtsov? Or the murder of his critics, like journalist Anna Politkovskaya? Or the poisoning with radioactive polonium of Alexander Litvinenko, who tried to shed light on Putin's secret police thugs? Or the recent use of a weapons-grade nerve agent in England against two Russians of whom Putin disapproved? Are the ethics of these practices part of the patriarch's "dialogue" with the president?

What are the "moral values" that inform Putin's claim that the collapse of the Soviet Union, a murderous tyranny, was the worst geopolitical disaster of the 20th century?

Why doesn't the "atmosphere of openness" in which Russian "society lives today" extend to Alexei Navalny, the brave dissident who was not permitted to run in last month's presidential election? How is that "atmosphere of openness" affected by 24/7 state-sponsored propaganda inside Russia, which depicts Vladimir Putin as the one man who can save the country from Western aggression and domestic traitors? In an "atmosphere of openness," why has Mr. Putin been the beneficiary for 18 years of a colossal, Kremlin-organized personality cult – more sophisticated than that of the late, unlament-

ed Mao Zedong, to be sure, but of the same character?

Does the "certain success of our Fatherland in the near and distant future" mean the permanent occupation of Crimea, the ongoing presence of Russian troops in Ukraine, and the continuation of the low-grade but lethal war Russia is waging against its neighbor? Does it mean the destabilization of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia? Does it mean continued Russian support for the Syrian butcher, Bashar al-Assad? Does that "continued success" depend on Russian internet trolls and bots sowing discord and confusion (not to mention lies and propaganda) around the world? How does the alternative reality created by this tsunami of disinformation square with harmonious "social relationships"? How does it advance "the interests of the people"?

How is "the will of the people" expressed through charades that aren't "elections" in any real sense of the term? Is the "lofty mission which the Lord has entrusted" to Mr. Putin a mission-without-end? And does that "lofty mission" include Putin's accumulation of extraordinary wealth? Did the Lord really intend that Mr. Putin be president-for-life and a multi-billionaire to boot?

The extraordinary spiritual riches of Russian Orthodoxy are squandered when its leaders engage in this sort of propagandistic rubbish. The Russian Church suffered terribly under Lenin, Stalin, and their heirs. Its martyrs, who number in the millions, are dishonored when the bishops of a putatively free Church play the role of chaplain to the omnipotent and infallible czar, rather than speaking truth to power. Putin has cynically cast himself as the savior of Christian values and the Russian Church leadership has not only acquiesced in, but promoted, that farce.

After years of suffering, Russian Orthodox believers deserve something better than this. So does true ecumenical dialogue.

George Weigel is Distinguished Senior Fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C.

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