



DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

# CATHOLIC TIMES

*A journal of Catholic life in Ohio*

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THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD  
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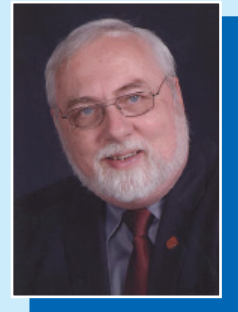


**HAVE A BLESSED CHRISTMAS**

## The Editor's Notebook

# A Joyful Passage

By David Garick, Editor



Christmas and New Year's have a very different feel at the Garick house this year. The Christmas tree is as festive as ever. The events with friends and family remain joyous. The celebration of the birth of our Savior is still paramount. But this year at Christmas, my wife and I take that momentous step to end our working careers and enter retirement. We are flooded with memories of more than half a century of building professional lives, of working to make a difference in the world. Those memories are overwhelmingly good. We have been blessed by God with talents, and I think we have developed and used them well to serve Him and our neighbors.

At the same time, we are excited about what lies ahead. We understand that retirement is not a door closing behind us, but rather a door opening before us to new opportunities, allowing us to explore new ways to live the vocation God has called us to without the pressures of earning a living and meeting work schedules.

Pope Francis recently met with a group of middle-school children. The message he gave them is very important, and it applies just as much to those of us ending our professional careers as it does to these young people whose careers lie before them.

"Life is a long series of hellos and goodbyes, so don't be afraid to let go of the past; remember old friends, but keep moving and be open to the new," the pope told them. "We have to learn to see life by seeing the horizons, not the walls that can make people afraid because they don't know what is on the other side. Look at the wall and think about the horizon that lies in the countryside," he said. The more a person journeys toward the horizon, the farther, longer, and wider that horizon becomes. Remember to call and visit old friends, he said, "but live and journey with the new ones."

So with this issue, I say goodbye as editor of the *Catholic Times*. Doug Bean will take over as editor of this newspaper with the next issue, and I know he will continue the things that you have grown to love in our *Journal of Catholic Life in Ohio*.

I have to take just a moment to thank the people who have made my 10 years at this desk so memorable. Most of all, I thank Bishop Frederick Campbell for entrusting his newspaper to my care. I will always be grateful for the opportunity and support that he, Deacon Tom Berg, and Msgr. Stephan Moloney, who comprise the *Catholic Times* board of trustees, have given to me.

I give special thanks to my staff: writer Tim Puet

and graphics manager Alexandra Keves. I get a lot of credit for what you see in the *Catholic Times*. But most of the words and the beautiful layout that you enjoy are from their efforts. I could not have done this without them.

I also want to thank the people from our diocesan offices, our priests, deacons, religious, our parish and school leaders, and our many ministries. They provide the information that goes into the stories you read and enjoy. And, of course, I want to thank all of our readers. You are the reason that this newspaper exists. Your feedback has been very important to me.

So while I am retiring from my desk at the *Catholic Times*, I am not retiring from living a vibrant Catholic life. I will be around the diocese, and I look forward to seeing many of you in the years ahead. And I leave you with the blessing that the Lord instructed Moses to give to Aaron and the Israelites: "The Lord bless you and keep you! The Lord let his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you! The Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace!"



## New class of prospective deacons formed

Ten men from the Diocese of Columbus have begun their journey to become permanent deacons. The formation process began formally on Sunday, Dec. 17 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral as Bishop Frederick F. Campbell presided over the Rite of Candidacy for the prospective deacons. They are shown with Bishop Campbell and some of the deacons who will guide them in their formation. Pictured are (from left): first row, Deacon Bill Demidovich, chairman, Diocesan Diaconal Council; Doug Yglesias, Sunbury St. John Neumann; Mark O'Loughlin, Columbus St. Cecilia; Eric Wright, Newark St. Francis DeSales; Jim Elchert, Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes; Jeff Hurdley, Lancaster St. Mark; and Deacon Dan Hann, consultant, Office of the Diaconate; second row, Deacon Thomas Berg, Jr., chancellor, Diocese of Columbus; Christopher Walsh, Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona; Victor Nduaguba, Columbus St. Andrew; Bishop Campbell; Dan Dowler, Columbus St. Andrew; Jesus (Jesse) Figueroa, West Jefferson Ss. Simon and Jude; Nicholas Klear, Ada Our Lady of Lourdes; and Deacon Frank Iannarino, director, Office of the Diaconate. They will now begin their three-year studies at the Pontifical College Josephinum and hope to be ordained in 2020.

CT photo by Ken Snow

### Front Page photo:

This image of the birth of Christ is in the form of a wooden Nativity scene created by the late Bruno Weber, a well-known Columbus woodcarver who did much carving for the rebuilding of Columbus St. Patrick Church after a 1935 fire. It was displayed in his home from every Christmas from 1909 to 1954. The photo was provided by his grandson, John Rees.



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*My dear brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ,*

*Every year that we celebrate the wondrous Feast of Christmas, I am amazed by the seemingly inexhaustible riches of the feast, even after having celebrated it for several decades now. For those who have experienced the joy of the festival throughout the past year, its renewed celebration offers a deeper sense of the gift of joy to be shared widely and generously. For those who may have experienced disappointment and sadness during the past months, Christmas brings both consolation and a renewed hope, for the gifts of the Emmanuel are unsurpassed in their measure. For all of us who commemorate the birth of Jesus Christ, there is always something new and deeper to discover in the feast, if only the simple and supporting knowledge that in Jesus Christ, as Juliana of Norwich discovered, "all will be well; all manner of things will be well."*

*Consider well what Christmas means. In an obscure part of the Roman empire, some 2,000 years ago, God, the creator of all things, through His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, took on human flesh and entered into our human existence. By His incarnation, Jesus transforms the reality of our humanity, for Christ became like one of us so that we might become like Him and live forever in the light, peace, and joy which is the great promise of Christmas.*

*May the incarnate Lord Jesus enter fully into your hearts and minds during this holy season and bring you His lasting grace and love.*

*A Holy and Merry Christmas,*

*Most Rev. Frederick F. Campbell, DD, PhD  
Bishop of Columbus*



HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION  
NATIVITY OF THE LORD  
DECEMBER 25

Check individual parishes  
for schedule of  
Holy Day Mass times

## Christmas Mass schedule for diocesan churches

Christmas Day, Dec. 25, is on a Monday this year. Because of that, some parishes in the diocese will be changing their usual Mass schedule for the Fourth Sunday of Advent, Dec. 24, in addition to having a special schedule of Christmas Masses for the evening of Dec. 24 and for Dec. 25.

Christmas Day is always a holy day of obligation in the United States, The Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God on Jan. 1 also is usually a holy day, but for 2018, it is not in that category. The bishops of the United States, in accordance with canon law, have suspended the obligation to attend Mass on that day when the feast is on a Saturday or a Monday.

The following is a list of parish Mass schedules for the Fourth Sunday of Advent (including Sunday Vigil Masses on Saturday, Dec. 23) and Christmas Day, as provided to the Catholic Times by parishes. Call the parish for liturgical details about specific Masses.

**Ada Our Lady of Lourdes** – Fourth Sunday of Advent Mass: Dec. 24, 11 a.m. Christmas Masses: Dec. 24, 5 p.m.; Dec. 25, 11 a.m.

**Bremen St. Mary** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 24, 8:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 9 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

**Buckeye Lake Our Lady of Mount Carmel** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4 p.m.; Dec. 24, 8 and 11 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 6 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**Canal Winchester St. John XXIII** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 9 and 11 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 5 p.m., church; 5:15 p.m. lower level; 10 p.m., church; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**Cardington Sacred Hearts** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4:30 p.m.; Dec. 24, 9 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4:30 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

**Chillicothe St. Mary** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 10 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 6 and 9 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**Chillicothe St. Peter** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 8 and 11:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 5 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m.

**Circleville St. Joseph** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 10 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 5 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**Columbus Christ the King** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4 p.m., 6 p.m. (Spanish); Dec. 24, 8 and 10 a.m., 12:30 p.m. (Spanish). Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 p.m., 6 p.m. (Spanish); Dec. 25, 10 a.m., 12:30 p.m. (Spanish).

**Columbus Corpus Christi** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5:30 p.m.; Dec. 24, 9 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 5:30 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

**Columbus Holy Cross** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 24, 10 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**Columbus Holy Family** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 8:30 a.m. (Latin), 11 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 5 and 7 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 8:30 a.m. (Latin), 11 a.m.

**Columbus Holy Name** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4 p.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 5:30 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

**Columbus Holy Rosary-St. John** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 24, 9:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 8 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**Columbus Holy Spirit** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5:30 p.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 5:30 and 9 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**Columbus Immaculate Conception** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4 and 6:30 p.m.; Dec. 24, 9:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4, 7, and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**Columbus Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4 p.m.; Dec. 24, 9 and 11 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 and 7 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**Columbus Our Lady of Peace** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4 p.m.; Dec. 24, 8:30, 10, and 11:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4, 6, and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**Columbus Our Lady of Victory** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 8:30 and 11 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4, 7, and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**Columbus Parroquia Santa Cruz** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 6 p.m.; Dec. 24, 8 and 11 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 25, 11 a.m. (all in Spanish), at Columbus Holy Name Church.

**Columbus Sacred Heart** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4 p.m.; Dec. 24, 11 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 5:30 p.m.

**Columbus St. Agatha** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 8:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4, 6, and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**Columbus St. Agnes** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4:30 p.m.; Dec. 24, 10 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4:30 and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**Columbus St. Aloysius** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4 p.m.; Dec. 24, noon. Christmas: Dec. 24, 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**Columbus St. Andrew** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4:30 p.m.; Dec. 24, 7:30, 9, and 10:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 p.m., church; 4 p.m., parish hall; 6 and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 and 11 a.m.

**Columbus St. Anthony** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 9 and 11 a.m., 1 p.m. (Ghanaian Mass). Christmas: Dec. 24, 4, 6:30, and 9 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**Columbus Ss. Augustine & Gabriel** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4:30 p.m.; Dec. 24, 10 a.m., noon (Vietnamese). Christmas: Dec. 24, 6 p.m.; Dec. 25, 11 a.m. (Vietnamese and English).

**Columbus St. Catharine** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 11 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 and 6 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 11 a.m.

**Columbus St. Cecilia** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 7:30 and 9:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 5 and 8 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 9:30 a.m.

**Columbus St. Christopher** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4:30 p.m.; Dec. 24, 9 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 and 8 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

**Columbus St. Dominic** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 24, 8 and 11:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 6 p.m.

**Columbus St. Elizabeth** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5:30 p.m.; Dec. 24, 9 a.m. Christmas, Dec. 24, 4 and 7 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**Columbus St. Francis of Assisi** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 24, 10 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 5 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**Columbus St. James the Less** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4:30 p.m. (English), 6 p.m. (Spanish); Dec. 24, 9 a.m. (English), 11 a.m. (Spanish). Christmas: Dec. 24, 4:30 p.m. (English), 7 p.m. (Spanish), midnight (English); Dec. 25, 9 a.m. (English), 11 a.m. (Spanish).

**Columbus St. John the Baptist** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 24, 9:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**Columbus St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 24, 9:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5:15 p.m.; Dec. 24, 8 and 10:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 and 6 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m., 5:15 p.m.

**Columbus St. Ladislav** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4 p.m.; Dec. 24, 11 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, midnight; Dec. 25, 11 a.m.

**Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4 p.m.; Dec. 24, 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m.

**Columbus St. Mary, Mother of God** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4 p.m. school gym; Dec. 24, 10 a.m., gym. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 p.m. and midnight, gym; midnight (Latin), Columbus St. Leo Church; Dec. 25, 7 a.m. (Latin), chapel; 10 a.m., gym.

**Columbus St. Mary Magdalene** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4 p.m.; Dec. 24, 11 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 and 7 p.m.; Dec. 25, 11 a.m.

**Columbus St. Matthias** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 9 and 11 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 5 and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m., 3 p.m. (Nigerian), 7:15 p.m. (Brazilian).

**Columbus St. Patrick** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 7, 9, and 10:30 a.m., noon. Christmas, Dec. 24, 4 and 6:30 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 7 and 10 a.m., noon.

**Columbus St. Peter** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m. (Spanish); Dec. 24, 8, 9:30, and 11:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4:30 p.m., church; 4:30 p.m., McEwan Center; 7 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m., 1 p.m. (Spanish).

**Columbus St. Philip** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4 p.m.; Dec. 24, 9 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

**Columbus St. Stephen** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4 p.m. (English), 6:30 p.m. (Spanish); Dec. 24, 8 a.m. (Spanish), 10 a.m. (English), noon (Spanish).

Christmas: Dec. 24, 5 p.m. (English), 7 p.m. (Spanish), 9 p.m. (Spanish); Dec. 25, 10 a.m. (English), noon (Spanish).

**Columbus St. Thomas the Apostle** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 9 and 11:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 5 p.m. (bilingual), midnight; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5:30 p.m.; Dec. 24, 10 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4, 7, and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**Columbus St. Timothy** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 8 and 10 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 5, 7, and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 8 and 10 a.m.

**Corning St. Bernard** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4 p.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 5 p.m.

**Coshocton Sacred Heart** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 8 and 10:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 5 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

**Crookville Church of the Atonement** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 24, 9 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 7 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

**Danville St. Luke** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 24, 10 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4:30 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

**Delaware St. Mary** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4:30 p.m.; Dec. 24, 7 and 9 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 p.m., church; 4 p.m., gym; 7 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 9 and 11 a.m.

**Dennison Immaculate Conception** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 8 and 10 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 5 and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

**Dover St. Joseph** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4 p.m.; Dec. 24, 8:30 and 11 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 5 p.m., 7:30 p.m. (Spanish), 11:30 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

**Dresden St. Ann** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 24, 9 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 9 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

**Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 7:30, 9, and 10:45 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4, 6:30, and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 and 11 a.m.

**Gahanna St. Matthew** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 8 and 10 a.m., noon. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4, 7, and 9 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**Glenmont Ss. Peter and Paul** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 24, 8 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 6 p.m.

**Granville St. Edward** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 8:15 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 5 and 9 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 8 and 9:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 p.m., church; 4 p.m., gym; 7 and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9:30 a.m.

**Groveport St. Mary** – Fourth Sunday, Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 9 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 5 and 9 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

**SCHEDULE, continued from Page 4**

**Heath St. Leonard** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5:30 p.m.; Dec. 24, 9:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 and 8 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m.

**Hilliard St. Brendan** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5:30 p.m.; Dec. 24, 7:15, 8:45, and 10:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 p.m., church; 4 p.m., school multipurpose room; 6:30 p.m., church; 6:30 p.m., multipurpose room; 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 8:45 and 10:30 a.m.

**Jackson Holy Trinity** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 6 p.m.; Dec. 24, 9 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

**Johnstown Church of the Ascension** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5:30 p.m.; Dec. 24, 8:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4:30 and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**Junction City St. Patrick** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 24, 9 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 8 p.m.

**Kenton Immaculate Conception** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4 p.m.; Dec. 24, 9 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 8 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

**Lancaster St. Bernadette** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4 p.m.; Dec. 24, 11 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 6 and 11:30 p.m.; Dec. 25, 11 a.m.

**Lancaster St. Mark** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 6:30 p.m.; Dec. 24, 9:15 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 5 and 8 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m.

**Lancaster St. Mary** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5:30 p.m.; Dec. 24, 8:45 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4, 6:30, and 9 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

**Logan St. John** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 8 and 10 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 5 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**London St. Patrick** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 7:30 and 10:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 5 and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m.

**Marion St. Mary** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 11 a.m., 1 p.m. (Spanish). Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 and 7 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 11 a.m.

**Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4:30 p.m.; Dec. 24, 9 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 and 6 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**Mattingly Settlement St. Mary** – Fourth Sun-

day: Dec. 23, 4:30 p.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4:30 p.m.

**Millersburg St. Peter** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 11 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

**Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4:30 p.m.; Dec. 24, 8, 10, and 11:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 and 6 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m.

**New Albany Church of the Resurrection** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 9 and 11 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4, 7, and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**New Boston St. Monica** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 24, 11:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 p.m.

**New Lexington St. Rose** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 6 p.m.; Dec. 24, 7:30 and 10:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 and 6 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

**New Philadelphia Sacred Heart** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 8:30 and 11 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 5 and 7 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 8:30 a.m.

**Newark Blessed Sacrament** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 8 and 10:45 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 5 and 7:30 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 11 a.m.

**Newark St. Francis de Sales** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 10:45 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 and 7 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**Newcomerstown St. Francis de Sales** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5:30 p.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 7 p.m.

**Otway Our Lady of Lourdes** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 24, 11 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 25, 11 a.m.

**Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 8 and 9:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 p.m., church; 4 p.m., activity center; 6 and 11 p.m.; Dec. 25, 8 and 9:30 a.m.

**Plain City St. Joseph** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4:30 p.m., church; Dec. 24, 9 a.m., activity center. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 p.m., church; 4 p.m., activity center; 7 p.m., activity center; midnight, church; Dec. 25, 10 a.m., church.

**Pond Creek Holy Trinity** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 5 p.m.

**Portsmouth Holy Redeemer** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 24, 9 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 6:30 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

**Portsmouth St. Mary** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5:30 p.m.; Dec. 24, noon. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 and 9 p.m.

**Powell St. Joan of Arc** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 7:30, 9, and 10:45 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 p.m., church; 4 p.m., social hall; 6:30 p.m., church; 6:30 p.m., social hall; 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 and 11 a.m.

**Reynoldsburg St. Pius X** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 8:30 and 10:15 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4, 6:30, and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

**Somerset Holy Trinity** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 10 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 6:30 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

**Somerset St. Joseph** – Fourth Sunday, Dec. 24, 8 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 p.m.

**Sugar Grove St. Joseph** – Fourth Sunday, Dec. 23, 5:30 p.m.; Dec. 24, 9 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 8 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

**Sunbury St. John Neumann** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4 p.m.; Dec. 24, 10 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4, 6:30, and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**Washington Court House St. Colman of Cloyne** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 8:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 5 and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 8:30 a.m.

**Waverly St. Mary** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 24, 9:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 9:30 p.m.

**Wellston Ss. Peter and Paul** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4:30 p.m. Christmas: Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

**West Jefferson Ss. Simon and Jude** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4 p.m.; Dec. 24, 9 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 5 and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

**West Portsmouth Our Lady of Sorrows** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 24, 9 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, midnight.

**Westerville St. Paul** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4 p.m.; Dec. 24, 7:30, 9, and 10:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 p.m., church; 4 p.m., Westerville North High School; 6:30 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 9 and 10:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m.

**Wheelersburg St. Peter in Chains** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4 p.m.; Dec. 24, 8:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 10:30 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

**Worthington St. Michael** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4 p.m.; Dec. 24, 8:30 and 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 4 and 6 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 9 and 11 a.m.

**Zaleski St. Sylvester** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 24, 11 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 7 p.m.

**Zanesville St. Nicholas** – Fourth Sunday, Dec. 23, 5:15 p.m.; Dec. 24, 7:30 and 9:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 6 and 10 p.m.; Dec. 25, 8 and 10 a.m.

**Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 5 p.m.; Dec. 24, 9:30 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 5 p.m., midnight; Dec. 25, 9:30 a.m.

**Zoar Holy Trinity** – Fourth Sunday: Dec. 23, 4:30 p.m.; Dec. 24, 9 a.m. Christmas: Dec. 24, 6 p.m.; Dec. 25, 9 a.m.

**ODU to open 'Convergence' exhibit on Jan. 26**

Ohio Dominican University's Wehrle Gallery will host the opening of a new exhibit, *Convergence: Two Views – New Work by Char Norman and Anita Dawson*, from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 26 in the Wehrle Gallery on ODU's campus at 1215 Sunbury Road, Columbus.

The exhibition is scheduled to run from Jan. 26 to Saturday, March 31.


In addition to appearing at the opening, the artists will discuss their inspira-

tion for the exhibit during a talk at noon Wednesday, Feb. 21 in the gallery.

Norman and Dawson explore the idea of convergence through paintings and mixed media pieces. Their works center around the coming together of ideas, cultural influences, the political climate, their lengthy friendship, and work/travel partnerships.

The Wehrle Gallery is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Admission is free.

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## Follow-up on agoraphobia; Grandparent as baptismal sponsor?



### QUESTION & ANSWER

by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE

Catholic News Service

**Q.** I enjoy reading your columns in our diocesan newspaper. Recently you responded to a person who is concerned about missing Mass due to agoraphobia. (Editor's note: Agoraphobia is defined as an extreme or irrational fear of crowded spaces or enclosed public places.)

As a psychiatrist, I wish you would have added that agoraphobia is a very treatable condition, using medication or a specific kind of therapy called cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT), which can help a person manage anxiety in public settings such as Mass.

In addition to discussing the situation with a priest, the person who wrote may seek treatment with a doctor or a therapist with skills in CBT.

(Since the writer is seeking to participate more fully in worship and the sacraments, I have to believe that God will smile on the work he or she does with a medical professional to achieve that!) (Columbus)

**Q.** I was delighted to read your column about agoraphobia. It is nice to know that you are not alone, that others are dealing with similar issues. I have panic/anxiety problems and, when I told a deacon that I was unable to attend weekend Masses because of the large number of people present, he suggested that I attend Mass instead on a weekday. (Actually, I now go on more than

one weekday!)

It is a great relief to feel comfortable while praying at Mass and not have to focus on fighting feelings of panic.

Thank you for addressing this, and I am sure it will help others as well. (City of origin withheld.)

**A.** The two letters above are indicative of the responses that are received daily, commenting on this column. Often enough, these comments contain additional information that may be helpful to some readers.

Here, the first letter serves as an important reminder that God works in many ways -- often through the efforts of skilled professionals. When medical help is available, one is wise and well-advised to seek it.

The second letter may be of comfort simply by assuring readers that they are never alone in dealing with particular challenges.

**Q.** Both my daughter and I left the church some years back, although for different reasons. I returned to regular practice about a year and a half ago, and my daughter is thinking of returning as well.

She is a single mom, with two children -- ages 6 and 12 -- and she would like them to be baptized. (I have been trying to teach them about the Catholic faith.)

Our problem is that we have no other family, and our friends are not Catholic.

Is it possible that I can be their godmother, even though I am also their grandmother? (Taylorsville, Kentucky)

**A.** I am delighted to hear of your return to the sacramental practice of the Catholic faith and to the support this offers you in living the Christian life.

Note, too, the "multiplier effect" -- I can only believe that your own journey back has served as an example for your daughter, and now her two children will be raised as Catholics as well!

In answer to your question, yes -- you yourself may certainly be the sponsor (godparent) for your grandchildren's baptisms.

A father or mother may not serve as a godparent for their own child (Canon 874 of the church's *Code of Canon Law*), but there is no such rule prohibiting grandparents.

The role of the sponsor is to "help the baptized person to lead a Christian life in keeping with baptism and to fulfill faithfully the obligations inherent in it," and I am sure you would do this well (Canon 872).

(The only downside I can see in a grandparent's being a godparent is this: If the parents were to pass on or to be incapacitated in some way, a godparent is meant to serve as a "stand-in," mentoring and assuring the continued Catholic life of the child -- so I suppose that the younger the godparent/grandparent is, the better!)

*Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at [askfatherdoyle@gmail.com](mailto:askfatherdoyle@gmail.com) and 30 Columbia Circle Drive, Albany NY 12203.*

## Pioneer days at St. Bernadette



Students at Lancaster St. Bernadette School went back in time to the era of the pioneers of the West by building 12 covered wagons. They worked in groups to calculate what they could take in a wagon that would provide enough supplies for a family of four to make a five-month journey. They also put together a primitive ball-and-cup toy and used clothespins to build a barrel that would hold water. They also had a book fair with a Wild West theme. Funds from the event, along with a generous donation from Dr. James Guenther and his wife, Joyce, were used to purchase new 32-inch LED televisions and Blu-Ray DVD players for every classroom. Pictured with one of the covered wagons are (from left): first row, Xander Guinan, kindergarten; Max Beiter, first grade; Kyndra Nagle, fifth grade; and Wyatt Holstein, prekindergarten; second row, Angie Kerns, enrichment teacher; Kiara Harmon, first grade; and Tori Fitzgibbon, fourth grade.

Photo courtesy St. Bernadette School

## 'Saint lady' visits Trinity



Mary Ann Grove, the "saint lady," visited Columbus Trinity Elementary School, showed some of the 133 saint statues in her collection to the students, and told stories about the saints depicted.

Photo courtesy Trinity Elementary School

## THE EVERYDAY CATHOLIC



By: Rick Jeric

### Thanks, Dave

Super Sunday is here. We have the fourth week of Advent for a few hours, and then it's Christmas Eve. This is every parish and liturgical planner's dream. While it's a bit rough on those who prepare everything for us in a very practical way, it is still the same wonderful season of preparation coming to a close, with the super celebration for eight days of the birth of our Savior with the Octave of Christmas.

We have heard the great, mysterious prophecies throughout Advent. We have heard the heartening and inspiring messages of hope from John the Baptist: "Prepare ye the way of the Lord." Have we prepared well? The work of a prophet is always challenging. Throughout salvation history, prophets have been consistently rejected, or at best met with disdain and great suspicion. The work of a herald is a bit easier. Challenging, yes, but typically, their message is interesting, welcome, and informational.

John the Baptist was both. He was God's messenger and prophet to get everyone prepared for the coming of the Savior, Jesus Christ. Unfortunately, his message of repentance was not embraced by many. He had a few disciples, but most people, especially those with power, developed a real hatred for him. Just as Advent comes and goes in four weeks, John's days were numbered. He was also a great herald. His voice cried out in the desert, foretold by Isaiah: "Prepare ye the way of the Lord."

The message was interesting, welcomed at first, and certainly informational. But since it was not the heralded message the people wanted to hear, the earplugs went in, soon to be followed also by blinders. I wonder what it would have been like to have heard John's words in person: "Behold the Lamb of God; I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of His sandals." For his disciples, it must have been an odd combination of shock and hope, but a real head-scratcher. Thank God they absorbed the words of John the prophet and heeded the words of John the herald.

When I was a kid growing up in Geauga County in northeast Ohio, the local newspaper was *The Chagrin Valley Herald*. It was filled with a lot of interesting local news that was welcome and informational. I believe many of us still pay attention to what is happening close to home. When it comes to local parish and diocesan news, we are very blessed to have this newspaper each week. The *Catholic Times* does not happen by accident. And to have this herald's voice on a weekly basis in print is rare.

For many years, we also have been blessed to read and enjoy "The Editor's Notebook" as soon as we open the paper on Page 2. I will testify that we have had a very positive and hopeful impact from our editor, Dave Garick. As editor, he has been a true herald, providing this diocese with interesting and informational news. As a writer, he has been a prophet of sorts, giving us tremendous insights, wonderful inspiration, and always a very warm and hopeful future outlook. As Dave enjoys his retirement, he will be missed, but he will still be active in our diocese, I am sure. What a blessing he is. A blessed Christmas to all, and "Thanks, Dave."

## March for Life announces location, tentative speakers

By Rhina Guidos

Catholic News Service

March for Life organizers announced in a Dec. 6 briefing a tentative group of speakers, a theme and other details for a Jan. 18 conference and expo and Jan. 19 march and rally in Washington.

"Love Saves Lives" is the theme of the 2018 march, said Jeanne Mancini, president of March for Life, adding that the group not only wants to focus on the sacrifice involved with bringing life into the world, but also on interactions with one another.

Mancini said one of the speakers who will talk about that during the event is Pam Tebow, mother of former football player Tim Tebow.

"Her story for choosing life for Timmy is beautiful," Mancini said. Tebow's doctors told her she had to have an abortion to save her own life, but she refused and delivered a healthy boy.

Another person who will share her story is Kelly Rosati, a March for Life board member, who has adopted four children who were previously in foster care, Mancini said.

She said the organization also wants to provide a focus for the work done by pregnancy centers and maternity homes that help women who find themselves in an unplanned pregnancy.

"Those homes are totally about providing resources for women facing unexpected pregnancies, and they're often given a bad rap," she said.

A day before the rally and march,

the March for Life organization will host a conference and an expo, as well as a session with instructions on how to track legislators' votes and provide "tools to lobby."

Because the National Park Service has a refurbishing project that makes it too expensive to be on the grounds of the Washington Monument, the noon march, the main event on Jan. 19, will begin instead on the National Mall between Madison Drive and Jefferson Drive, then will proceed down Constitution Avenue. The march will head toward the U.S. Capitol and then proceed to the plaza outside the Supreme Court of the United States.

Congressmen Dan Lipinksi, an Illinois Democrat, and Chris Smith, a Republican from New Jersey, have confirmed their attendance, Mancini said.

"The March for Life is nonpartisan, or bipartisan, we're also nonsectarian, we always try to get people from both sides of the political aisle to speak at the March for Life," she said, adding that it's not always an easy task.

The annual event marks the Supreme Court's 1973 decision in *Roe v. Wade* and its companion case, *Doe v. Bolton*, that legalized abortion.

She said the March for Life also has invited White House officials to speak, but gave no indication of whether they would attend. Vice President Mike Pence spoke at the event last year.

The organization has a full list of events at <http://marchforlife.org/mfl-2018/rally-march-info>.

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## Tuscarawas students share giving spirit

Students of Tuscarawas County's two Catholic elementary schools are in the giving spirit. Dennison Immaculate Conception School (far right) and Dover Tuscarawas Central Catholic Elementary School (right) participated in food and toy drives to benefit the Share-a-Christmas program, a countywide effort providing food, clothing, and toys to families in need. The schools combined to collect 3,000 food items and 850 toys. "Those totals far exceed what we collected last year and surpassed the goals we had set for this year. We're extremely thankful for the generosity of our families and friends for supporting the effort," said principal Matt Ritzert. Photos courtesy Tuscarawas Schools



## Scholarship exams at Bishop Ready

Columbus Bishop Ready High School, 707 Salisbury Road, will administer scholarship exams from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 6 and Saturday, Jan. 27 for freshmen who will enter

the school in the fall of 2018. Students may choose either date to take the exam. For more information, contact the school at (614) 276-5263.

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## Freedom in Christ

Freedom is something we desire in our lives. Freedom to worship and freedom to vote are two great freedoms that we are thankful for in our nation, along with many other personal freedoms.

One of the reasons I began working as a fitness professional was because I discovered a method of exercising that was based on freedom. We called it fitness freedom, and it did not involve counting reps and sets. It used whatever the environment provided, indoors or outdoors, and it had joyful elements of play and exploration. This freedom made it accessible to everyone.

Freedom is also a key in our spiritual lives – freedom in Christ, that is – and it is joyful and accessible to everyone.

Scripture tells us that we are most free when we allow Christ to live in us. Through him, with him, and in him, we discover our individual mission and become fully alive in him. In choosing his way, rather than our way, we become truly free.

“So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed”

(John 8:36).

Frequenting the Sacraments, reading Scripture, praying, and serving God and our neighbor by sharing our gifts and talents set us on the freedom trail.

St. John Paul II said, “Freedom consists not in doing what we like, but in having the right to do what we ought.”

Along with freedom comes great responsibility as Jesus asks us to remove unhealthy habits of sin from our lives. Sin weighs us down, slows us down, and gets us down, and in those times, God can feel very far away. But love urges us on to grow in the virtues of faith, hope, and charity and to never stop trying to do it God’s way.

God respects our freedom and doesn’t barge into our lives. He waits patiently for us – his little children, his lost sheep, his prodigal sons – to take a step, to seek and to find, and to ask for forgiveness on the winding road to the freedom that only he can give. He is most generous when we ask him for it and co-



operate with his grace.

St. Augustine said, “Pray as though everything depended on God. Work as though everything depended on you.”

It can take a lifetime to fully grasp living in the freedom that Christ offers us. But when we experience it, there is a joy and peace that is not of this world, but rather a foretaste of the next.

I think it’s worth pursuing, don’t you?

*Lori Crock is a wife, mother, Plain City St. Joseph Church parishioner, strength and movement coach, and owner of MoveStrong Kettlebells in Dublin. Lori is online at [movestrongkbs.com](http://movestrongkbs.com) and [holyllandhealthycatholic.com](http://holyllandhealthycatholic.com).*



## Merry Christmas from ODU



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

The Ohio Dominican University family sends you and your loved ones best wishes for a blessed Christmas and a 2018 filled with wonder! We invite you to visit our campus during this joyous season.

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## Italian teacher at diocesan schools

Roberta Bertolini (left), a teacher from Milan, Italy, is assisting with teaching the Italian language at Columbus St. Francis DeSales and Bishop Watterson high schools through the end of the current school year. She is pictured with DeSales Italian teacher Antonella Iacobone. At Watterson, she is working with teacher Kelly Matthews. Her placement is part of a program sponsored by the NOI (Nuovi Orizzonti Italiani) Foundation through the Italian consulate in Detroit, with funding from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Rome.

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# DIOCESAN YEAR IN REVIEW

BY TIM PUET  
Catholic Times Reporter



Above: Columbus Mayor Andrew Ginther (left) and others open the new location of the Our Lady of Guadalupe Center. Below: Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas Church, which Dominican friars served for nearly two centuries until a recent reorganization. CT file photos



Among the highlights of 2017 in the Diocese of Columbus was the dedication in May of Catholic Social Services' relocated and expanded Our Lady of Guadalupe Center, which serves the Hispanic community and other residents from its location in an industrial park on Columbus' west side.

The new center moved just a few steps away from its former site in the industrial park, but the shift allowed it to triple the space it has available. Its new 3,500-square-foot location enabled it to expand its pantry and add office and meeting space for the job mentoring, language classes, nutrition and health programs, and other activities it offers.

The pantry was named for Catalina Santos, whose efforts in providing food in the mid-1990s from the back of her minivan to her fellow immigrants led to the founding of the center, where she continues to be active.

A new parish center was opened at Mattingly Settlement St. Mary Church on the site of what had been an outhouse for most of the history of the 160-year-old church.

Many of the sacred items in the center's chapel were donated by the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity and came from the chapel of the former Good Samaritan Hospital in Zanesville, which was torn down because a larger hospital replaced it. Other items came from the Church of the Nativity in Utica, which was razed in 2016 because of structural issues.

The two-story building also includes conference areas, and it is equipped with technology allowing it to feature live liturgies from elsewhere and conference DVDs. A garden also was planted at the site, and parking was expanded.

After nearly 200 years, the Dominican Friars left Zanesville in July.

The Dominican Province of St. Joseph decided to withdraw the friars from Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas Church because the province is refocusing its ministries in larger communities of friars. Father Jan Sullivan was appointed by Bishop Frederick Campbell as the first diocesan priest to be pastor at St. Thomas Aquinas. The friars continue to provide pastoral care for Columbus St. Patrick Church and Somerset St. Joseph and Holy Trinity churches.

St. Patrick Church was given a new status within the Dominican order. It's now known as a priory, rather than a house. That means the Province of St. Joseph will keep at least six friars at St. Patrick's. The parish's pastor, Father Stephen Alcott, OP, said that shows the Dominicans plan to continue their commitment to the diocese, which they have served since Dominican Father Edward Fenwick celebrated the state's first Mass in Somerset in 1808.

The diocese added a new parish cluster, with the addition of Wheelersburg St. Peter in Chains, New Boston St. Monica, and Jackson Holy Trinity churches to the cluster that had included Portsmouth St. Mary and Holy Redeemer churches. Father Joseph Yocum is pastor and Fathers Stephen Smith and Nicola Ventura are parochial vicars of the five parishes.

The cluster that had included Columbus St. Mary, Corpus Christi, and St. Ladislav churches was divided. Father Kevin Lutz remains pastor at St. Mary, and Father Vincent Nguyen is administrator of Corpus Christi and St. Ladislav. The St. Mary Church building remains closed as it continues to undergo renovation resulting from damage caused by a 2016 lightning strike.

About 100 directors of diaconate programs from dioceses throughout

the United States and Canada came to Columbus in April for the annual convention of the National Association of Diaconate Directors. The event began at St. Joseph Cathedral and ended in the newly restored St. Turibius Chapel of the Pontifical College Josephinum, with other sessions in the Sheraton Columbus Hotel at Capitol Square.

Bishop Campbell's keynote speech for the convention focused on the role of a deacon. Its theme of "Bridging Ecumenism and Interfaith Relations" was highlighted by a talk by Salesian Father John Crossin, who was in charge of the U.S. bishops' interfaith relations activities for the past five years.

The Vatican's apostolic nuncio to the United States, Archbishop Christophe Pierre, who also is the Josephinum's chancellor, visited the college earlier in April to rededicate the chapel, which underwent a year-long renovation. The most notable change resulting from the remodeling was restoration of a 1930s-era wall mural in the sanctuary. The mural had been sealed over in 1989, leaving the wall blank.

The Catholic Foundation began appointing "parish ambassadors," who will be known as St. John Fisher Stewards in honor of the Foundation's patron. These volunteers have pledged themselves to increase awareness of the Foundation's work and to promote the growth of parish endowments which enable it to provide for the diocese's long-term needs.

More than 40 Stewards attended a special Mass and luncheon at which the program was announced. The Foundation's president and chief executive officer, Loren Brown, hopes to appoint Stewards representing each of the more than 100 parishes in the diocese, plus its schools and other institutions.



The rectory at Columbus St. Patrick Church, which now has the status of a priory

David Garick announced his retirement after 10 years as editor of the *Catholic Times*, effective at the end of the year. His successor is Douglas Bean, who has been a contributing sports columnist for the *Times*, was a copy editor and reporter at *The Columbus Dispatch* and other newspapers for many years, and most recently was in a communications and marketing position with the Raisin Rack natural food market.



Dr. Joseph A. Brettnacher left his position as episcopal moderator of Catholic education and diocesan superintendent of schools in August because of family considerations. He accepted the position of principal of Sccecina Memorial High School in Indianapolis, where his mother-in-law is recovering from a stroke. Susan A. Streitenberger, associate director of high school curriculum, instruction, and assessment in the diocesan Office of Catholic Schools, was selected as his interim replacement.



Dr. Robert Gervasi was appointed Ohio Dominican University's 16th president, coming to Columbus in June from Quincy (Illinois) University, a Franciscan institution where he had been president for nine



years. His formal inauguration will take place in April. He succeeded Dr. Peter Cimbalic, who retired after seven years as ODU president. The diocesan Schools Office unveiled a new public image in an effort to unite all of its schools under a consistent brand. The image is that of a dove, with the words "Our Catholic Schools." The office is encouraging its use by all diocesan elementary and secondary schools in conjunction with their own well-established images.

As part of the rebranding, the office has opened a new website, which may be reached at education.columbuscatholic.org, and a Facebook page, "Our Catholic Schools."

Columbus Cristo Rey High School graduated its first class in June. The 48 members of the graduating class were pioneers of a work-study program that provided a new dimension to central Ohio education, giving economically disadvantaged students a chance to combine preparation for college with the opportunity to gain experience in the business world one day a week.

Cristo Rey had 380 students in grades nine through 12 for the 2016-17 school year. School president Jim Foley said its goal is to have total enrollment of about 500 students.

The Mount Carmel Health System and Acacia Healthcare announced agreement on a joint venture to develop a \$26 million behavioral health hospital at a location to be determined in Columbus. It will replace the 20-bed outpatient psychiatric unit at Mount Carmel West with a freestanding 80-bed inpatient behavioral health hospital.

In late June, the diocese introduced its new website, www.columbuscatholic.org. The site provides easy, one-stop access to a wealth of information and news about the Catholic Church in Columbus and around the world.

The *Catholic Times* portion of the site enables readers to access individual stories and commentary from the newspaper, as well as complete current and past issues for the last 10 years. It also links to Catholic News Service stories from the Vatican, Washington, and around the nation and the world, which provide



Bishop Campbell presents Josef Banks with the Catholic Man of the Year award

a Catholic perspective on the news that can be found in no other local news publication in the diocese.

Josef L. Banks of Columbus St. Dominic Church was selected as Catholic Man of the Year by the Catholic Men's Luncheon Club. He was chosen for his work as a volun-

**REVIEW**, continued from Page 11

teer in helping renovate his home parish and his continuing efforts there and at Columbus Holy Rosary-St. John Church, where he was on the building staff.

The honor also recognized his strong faith in the wake of a traumatic brain injury suffered in 1997, when he was beaten while helping a family restore an apartment. He had to relearn basic skills and did so, with his refusal to be vengeful setting an example for young people for whom he was a mentor.

Banks died unexpectedly on Aug. 30.

The Diocesan Council of Catholic Women presented its inaugural Mother Teresa Awards to 24 diocesan women who were honored for their efforts to exemplify the work of Christ and live in the spirit of St. Teresa of Calcutta. Recipients were:

Lynn Anderson, Chillicothe St. Peter; Lady Doris Anyadoh, Columbus St. Matthias; Mary Brown, Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help; Sister Nadine Buchanan, OP, Dominican Sisters of Peace; Marilyn Evans, Chillicothe St. Mary; Rita Fisher, Sugar Grove St. Joseph; Dottie Kelly, Columbus St. Anthony; Maria Lopez, Newark Blessed Sacrament; Mary Jo Mayhan, Columbus Christ the King; Marjorie McFadden, Columbus St. Thomas; Andrea McLean, Chillicothe St. Peter; Mary Murphy, St. Therese's Retreat Center;

Sister Wilma Ross, SCN, Columbus Corpus Christi and St. Ladislav; Delma Rouleau, Chillicothe St. Mary; Janet Schwartz, Columbus St. Anthony; Jeanne Stoker, Columbus Immaculate Conception; Nancy Thatcher, Columbus St. Anthony; Shirley Keske Thornburn, Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton; Joan Tomlinson, Columbus Christ the King; Frances Ann Volt, Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help; Vera White, Columbus Ss. Augustine & Gabriel; Patricia Woods, Columbus St. James the Less; Linda Woolard, Granville St. Edward; and Rosemary Zedalis, Chillicothe St. Mary.

Father Daniel Olvera of Columbus Holy Family Church was ordained as a priest of the diocese on May 27 by Bishop Campbell. He had been a mathematics teacher in Florida and Ohio for 17 years before discerning a call to the priesthood. He was assigned as parochial vicar to Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul and Danville St. Luke churches.



Father Chad VanHoose, a Portsmouth native, was ordained on the same day as a priest of the Archdiocese of St. Paul-Minneapolis by Archbishop Bernard Hebda. He was a member of NET (National Evangelization Team) Ministries, a St. Paul, Minnesota-based organization of traveling lay evangelists, for six years before studying for the priesthood at the St. Paul Seminary.

Father Colin King, OFM, was ordained as a friar of the Franciscan Province of St. John the Baptist on June 10 by Cincinnati Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Binzer in Cincinnati St. Clement Church. The 1998 Lancaster Fisher Catholic High School graduate attended Groveport St. Mary, Canal Winchester St. John XXIII, and Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton parishes. He is serving at Mary Gate of Heaven Parish in Negril, Jamaica.

Bishop Campbell also ordained five seminarians to the diaconate in May. Deacons Brett Garland, Thomas Herge, Todd Lehigh, and Christopher Tuttle are in the final year of their theological studies at the Josephinum, and Deacon Edward Shikina is studying at Pope John XXIII National Seminary in Weston, Massachusetts. It is anticipated that they will be ordained as priests of the diocese this coming May.



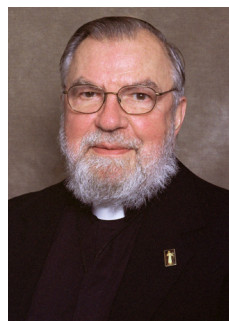
Msgr. Robert E. Metzger, 82, a priest for 56 years and one of three brothers and a cousin who became priests of the Diocese of



**Left: Bishop Frederick Campbell ordains Father Daniel Olvera as a priest. Right: Recipients of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women's inaugural Mother Teresa Awards.** (CT file photos)

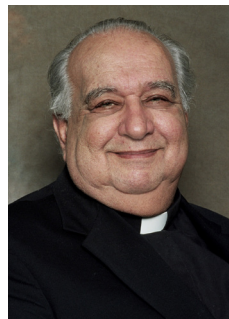
Columbus, died on Dec. 28, 2016.

He served as pastor at Columbus St. Dominic, Coshocton Sacred Heart, and Jackson Holy Trinity churches.



Father Joseph F. Losh, 83, died on Jan. 31 after 52 years as a priest.

He was pastor of LaRue St. Joseph Church from 1991 until his retirement in 2004 and also was pastor of Wainwright St. Therese and Midvale St. Paul and copastor of Columbus St. Augustine. In addition, he served for several years as the diocesan Catholic Charismatic Renewal's liaison to the bishop.



Father Carmen J. Arcuri, 82, died on Aug. 20. He had been a priest for 46 years.

He was the first pastor of Cardington Sacred Hearts Church and also was pastor of Mount Gilead St. Matthew, Cardington St. Joseph, Columbus St. Thomas, Waverly St. Mary, and St. John Neumann churches. He resided at Worthington St. Michael Church for several years following his retirement from active ministry in 2005.

Father David W. O'Brien, CSP, 88, died on Dec. 24, 2016. He had been a member of the Paulist Fathers for more than 60 years.

He was director of the Columbus St. Thomas More Center and superior of the Paulist community in Columbus from 1995-2004, remaining active at the center after his retirement. He also was a campus minister or a pastor in Texas, Connecticut, California, Colorado, and Massachusetts, and served at various times as vice president, first consultant, and a general council member for the Paulist order.

Father John T. Murphy, OP, 89, died on Jan. 17. In his 62 years as a priest, he served in a number of roles in six states, Mexico, and Peru. In the Diocese of Columbus, he taught at Columbus Aquinas High School and was associate pastor at Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas Church. He resided at the Mohun Health Care Center in Columbus from October 2012 until shortly before his death.

Father Christopher C. Coleman, 50, a native of London, Ohio, died July 9. He was a priest of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati for 11 years and was pastor of Wyoming St. James of the Valley, Forest Park St. Matthias, and Greenhills Our Lady of the Rosary churches at the time of his death.

Father R. Regis Heuschkel, OP, 94, died on July 19. He was a Dominican friar for 67 years, taught at Columbus Aquinas High School, and served as pastor at Somerset Holy Trinity Church and Columbus St. Patrick Church.

Deacon Robert Neely, 79, died on Jan. 26. He was ordained to the diaconate in 1990 and served as deacon at Columbus St. Dominic and Holy Rosary-St. John churches until his death.

## Bishop blesses Women's Care Center

The Women's Care Center of Columbus will be able to serve many more mothers and children now that it has tripled the size of one of its two Columbus locations.

Bishop Frederick Campbell, chairman of the center's board of directors, blessed and dedicated an addition to the center's building at 3273 E. Main St. on Tuesday, Dec. 12, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

The 1,200-square-foot expansion gives the building a total of 1,800 square feet for the free pregnancy tests, counseling programs, and parenting classes it offers. It also provides cribs, clothing, and other parent-related items at a discount through a Crib Club program operated in cooperation with the Christ Child Society of Columbus.

The East Main Street site, located next to a Planned Parenthood clinic, has been in operation since 2008. The city's other Women's Care Center, at 935 E. Broad St., has been open since 2009 and offers similar services. They are part of a group of 28 centers in 10 states which was founded in 1984 in

South Bend, Indiana, and is the nation's largest network of crisis pregnancy centers.

The organization is not formally affiliated with the Diocese of Columbus, but has a strong Catholic presence. "It supports one of the most important works of the church – the defense and promotion of life," Bishop Campbell said. "Its work is so important at this time, when society seems more and more to believe only in the present and fails to realize that life is a gift from God and we are its stewards."

Bobby Williams, director of the Women's Care Center Foundation in South Bend, said the East Main Street location has been the smallest of the Women's Care Centers until the expansion, but was one of the busiest. He said that in the nine years since the two Columbus centers have been opened, they have been visited 51,514 times, with 12,148 babies born to the mothers making those visits. This includes 1,879 births in the last year, 895 of them to visitors to the East Main Street site.



CT photos by Ken Snow

"So many women come here because of the exceptional love and service the staff honors," said Rick Jeric, who became executive director of the two Columbus centers earlier this year after 10 years as development director for the diocese. "They hold every mother and baby close to them."

Additional statistics provided by Jeric showed that one of every 10 babies born in Franklin County in the past 12 months had a mother who came to the centers. A total of 3,084 women made 6,777 visits to the centers, which performed 3,042 pregnancy tests – more than any other organization in Franklin County – and 2,538 ultrasounds. Those numbers were up two percent and 11 percent respectively from the previous year's total.

Even with construction going on all year at Main Street, the number of

pregnancy tests performed there remained steady, and the number of ultrasounds was 10 percent higher. Nearly half the women who came to the centers learned of them through the internet, with 34 percent referred by previous clients. Jeric said 92 percent of the women served by the centers who were considering abortion chose to give birth after talking with counselors at the two sites.

The program for the dedication also included the reading of Psalm 139 by Paul Demboski and of intercessions by Church Bramlage, both of whom are donors to the centers, and remarks by center director Kim Kurth. She and Molly Nester were instrumental in founding the centers and served as their co-directors for many years until Nester recently decided to leave full-time work to spend more time with her family.

Corna Kokosing Construction was general contractor for the addition. Columbus architect Chris Meyers was the designer.

Phone numbers for the centers are (614) 235-3000 for the East Main Street location and (614) 251-0200 for East Broad Street. Their website is [www.womenscarecenter.org/locations/columbus](http://www.womenscarecenter.org/locations/columbus).

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## Fourth Sunday of Advent (Cycle B)

# 'Let it be done to me according to your word'



Father  
Lawrence L. Hummer

**2 Samuel 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16;  
Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38**

The Fourth Sunday of Advent passes quickly. With Christmas following so closely, the reading from 2 Samuel will go unnoticed. David finally has settled in his palace after the Lord “had given him rest from his enemies on every side.” That stresses that David did not win his battles; the Lord had done it, after picking David to be king. Then David regrets living in “a house of cedar, while the ark of God dwells in a tent.”

At first, Nathan the prophet agrees with David’s building a Temple for the Lord. Later, the Lord speaks to Nathan, who reminds David of all that had been done for David by the Lord: “I took you from the care of the flock to be commander of my people Israel. ... I destroyed all your enemies before you ...” The Lord also promised to establish “my people” in the land. In this vein, the Lord reminds David of all that has been done for him already. And finally, “Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever before me; your throne shall stand firm forever.”

This is the key in evolving hope for a Messiah in later centuries after David’s successors had lost the kingship and Israel’s king was nothing more than a stoolie appointed by Rome. As followers of Jesus began to identify him as Messiah (or Christ), it became important to establish him as “Son of David” in order to claim Israel’s kingship.

Paul formulates the ending of the letter to the Romans, although many scholars think these verses were not part of Paul’s letter, nor that they were written by Paul. The verses reflect the New Testament attitude about Jesus as Christ, in the line of David. It was “ac-

ording to the revelation of the mystery kept secret for long ages but now manifested through the prophetic writings, and according to the command of the eternal God made known to all nations to bring about the obedience of faith.”

That brings us to the Gospel of Luke and the Annunciation narrative. Luke’s skill as a writer is evident throughout his work. The Annunciation scene is no exception. Patterned after the announcement to Zechariah about the birth of John, Luke assigns Mary to receive the announcement about the birth of Jesus. After the announcement, Zechariah was confused; so too Mary here. Zechariah objected that he was an old man; Mary objected that she did not “know” (as in, have relations with) a man. Zechariah is given a sign by being unable to speak. Mary’s sign is that her kinswoman Elizabeth is with child, a son, “For nothing is impossible for God.”

Joseph is clearly identified as the descendant of David, whereas in Matthew, it is Mary. After greeting her, the angel calls her “highly favored,” (by God), commonly translated “full of grace.” It is a play on words in Greek. He announces to her that “the Lord is with you,” which is really the meaning of that greeting at Mass. It’s a fact, not a prayer. Mary was greatly disturbed by this and debated within herself what this might mean. Striking is Luke’s insistence that she was perplexed and wondering about this, rather than eager to accept the news.

The angel convinces her: “Do not be afraid, Mary. You have found favor with God.” Gabriel presents it all in the future tense, not necessarily awaiting her acceptance, so much as telling her what was coming. Mary accepts and says “let it be done to me according to your word.” Now the scene is set for us to celebrate the joyful news that a “child has been born for us who is Christ and Lord.” A blessed and peace-filled Christmas to you all!

*Father Hummer, pastor of Chillicothe St. Mary Church, may be reached at [hummerl@stmarychillicothe.com](mailto:hummerl@stmarychillicothe.com).*

## DeSales students complete food collection

Students from Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School recently wrapped up another successful collection of canned food for St. Stephen’s Community House and the food pantry of Columbus St. James the Less Church. Pictured are a group of students delivering items to St. James the Less.

Photo courtesy

St. Francis DeSales High School



## The Weekday Bible Readings

12/25-12/30

1/1-1/6

**MONDAY (Midnight)**  
Isaiah 9:1-6  
Psalm 96:1-3,11-13  
Titus 2:11-14  
Luke 2:1-14

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

**TUESDAY**  
Acts 6:8-10;7:54-59  
Psalm 31:3cd-4,6,8ab,16bc-17  
Matthew 10:17-22

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**SATURDAY**  
1 John 2:12-17  
Psalm 96:7-10  
Luke 2:36-40

**SATURDAY**  
1 John 5:1-3  
Psalm 147:12-15,19-20  
Mark 1:7-11 or Luke 3:23-28

## DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEKS OF DEC. 24 AND 31, 2017

### SUNDAY MASS

10:30 a.m. Mass from Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at [www.stgabrielradio.com](http://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 (AM1060, FM94.5 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](http://www.stgabrielradio.com).

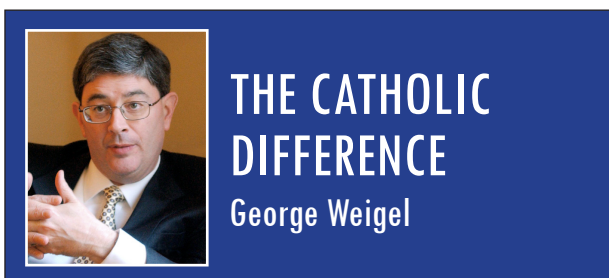
We pray the Sanctoral and Seasonal Propers and Week I of the Liturgy of the Hours

# The creche and the gap

For the past decade or so, I've been assembling a mid-sized Judean village of Fontanini crèche figures, including artisans, herders (with sheep), farmers (with chickens and an ahistorical turkey), vintners, blacksmiths, musicians, weavers, and a fisherman or two (one awake, another sleeping). Like the colossal Neapolitan crèche at the basilica of Saints Cosmas and Damian in Rome, it's a reminder that the Lord Jesus was born in the midst of humanity and its messy history: the history that the Child has come to set back on its truest course, which is toward God. The messiness of history is a caution against letting sentimentality take over Christmas; so are some challenging truths about Mary, Joseph, and their place in what theologians call the "economy of salvation."

Why challenging? Because Mary and Joseph were called to both form their son in the faith of Israel and then give up, even renounce, their human claims on him, so that he might be what God the Father intended and the world needed.

When Luke tells us that Mary kept all that had happened to her and to her boy "in her heart" (Luke 2.52), we may imagine that she was pondering what the Swiss theologian Hans Urs von Balthasar once described as a great detachment: at his birth, Jesus "detached himself from her in order to tread his way back to the Father through the world." Some will welcome the message he will preach along that messianic pilgrimage; others will be resistant. And that resistance (in which the Evil One will play no small part) will eventually lead to Calvary, where the sword of sorrow



## THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

George Weigel

promised by ancient Simeon in Luke 2.35 will pierce Mary's soul. Then, in the tableau at the foot of the cross, as captured by Michelangelo in the Pietà, Mary will offer the silent affirmation of God's will to which she once gave vocal assent at the Annunciation: "Be it done unto me according to your word" (Luke 1.38).

The last recorded words of Mary in the New Testament – "Do whatever he tells you" (John 2.5) – underscore that the role of Mary, who receives the Incarnate Word of God at the Annunciation and gives birth to him in the Nativity, is always to give her Son away, to point beyond herself to him, and to call others to obedience to him. Thus what Balthasar described as a "detachment" applies to Mary as well as to Jesus: Mary detaches herself from whatever her own life plans might be, and from whatever her maternal instincts to keep her Son close might be, in order to fulfill the vocation planned for her from the beginning – to be the model of all Christian discipleship, which is the abandonment of my will to God's will for my life.

Then there is Joseph, another model of self-gift and self-renunciation. Hans Urs von Balthasar again: "In

the background of this scene of birth there also stands Joseph, who renounces his own fatherhood and assumes the role of foster father assigned to him. He provides a particularly impressive example of Christian obedience, which can be ... very difficult ... to accept, especially in the physical sphere. For one can be poor by having given everything away once and for all, but one can be chaste only by a daily renunciation of something which is inalienable to man." And that makes Joseph a model for those who struggle daily to live, by grace, the truths they affirm about human love.

"Mind the gap" is the ubiquitous instruction found on the London Underground, cautioning passengers against stepping between the train and the platform. It's also a pithy but accurate description of the drama of the Christian life. For we all live, daily, in the "gap" between the person I am and the person I was called to be at baptism. The quotidian effort to minimize that "gap," which means cooperating with God's grace, is the warp and woof of the spiritual life. So the complement to the Fontanini characters surrounding our family crèche – each of whom represents a personal and unique "life in the gap" – is a small "Mind the Gap" Christmas ornament on our tree. For the Child born in Bethlehem is the bridge across the gap, and the angels atop the tree announce his birth.

**A blessed Christmas to all.**

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

## REVIEW, continued from Page 12

Deacon Francis X. McDevitt died on Feb. 15. He was 84. He was a deacon in the Diocese of Green Bay Wisconsin for seven years before moving to Columbus because of a job transfer in 1984. He served at Columbus St. Ladislav Church and later at Columbus St. Elizabeth Church, retiring in 2010.

Deacon Robert E. "Gene" Staker, 80, died on March 4. He served at Zanesville St. Nicholas Church in 1983 and 1984, and again from 1998-2015 after returning to his hometown from Montgomery, Alabama, where he had been in diaconal service after being transferred there by his employer.

Deacon Kenneth L. Drummer, 63, a deacon of the Diocese of Columbus, died on Aug. 2 in Lakeland, Florida, where he had been living since 2011. He served in the diocese as a deacon at Columbus St. Agatha Church and the Perry County Consortium of Catholic Parishes.

Religious sisters who died in 2017 and served in or were natives of the Diocese

of Columbus, or who were living in the diocese at the time of their death, were: Sister Ruth Caspar, OP, 81, Jan. 2; Sister Lillian Kapelewski, OP, 90, Jan. 5; Sister Patrice Holahan, OSF, 94, Jan. 12; Sister Marilyn Archer, OSF, 96, Feb. 8; Sister Rosemary Anthony, OSF, 85, Feb. 11; Sister Carol Ann Bonn, SCN, 75, Feb. 24; Sister Gertrude Fawls, OSF, 93, Feb. 24; Sister Johanna Eberly, OP, 87, March 9; Sister Susanne Humpe, OSF, 94, March 15; Sister Martha Starrett, OP, 85, March 29; Sister Ann Carolyn Blackburn, SNDdeN, 89, April 10; Sister Mary Elizabeth Myers, OP, 81, May 6; Sister Ruth Schirtzinger, OP, June 6; Sister Joanne Seiser, SNDdeN, 89, July 28; Sister Gladys Carmen Aragon, OP, 86, Aug. 14; Sister Mary Vincentia Wszolek, PCPA, 100, Aug. 24; Sister Bernadette Metzger, SNDdeN, 86, Sept. 15; Sister Lois Marrah, OSF, 100, Sept. 24; Sister Jo Ann Lamantia, OP, 76, Sept. 26; Sister Elaine Wellinger, HM, 85, Oct. 28; and Sister Mary Ronald Sunic, OP, 93, Dec. 5.



### St. Andrew students learn about owl pellets

Fifth-grade students at Columbus St. Andrew School learned about owl pellets and dissected them in the school science laboratory. Barn owls are unable to digest the fur and bone of their prey, which they usually swallow whole. The indigestible parts are coughed up through the beak in the form of a pellet, which often contains the remains of four or five small mammals. Pellet dissection can show exactly what an owl has eaten. Completing a dissection are Michael DeLuccia and Belle Studer. Photo courtesy St. Andrew School

# Pray for our dead

**AUGUSTUS, James J., 57, Dec. 11**  
St. Patrick Church, Columbus

**BALTZ, Albert E. "Ed" Jr., 84, Dec. 11**  
St. Mary Church, Lancaster

**BARKETT, William, 85, Dec. 15**  
St. Joseph Church, Dover

**DIETRICH, Lawrence R., 82, Dec. 8**  
St. Joseph Church, Circleville

**FENORCHITO, Larry G., 70, Dec. 10**  
Our Lady of Victory Church, Columbus

**HARRIS, David E., 75, Dec. 13**  
St. Joseph Church, Plain City

**HIRN, Gail M. (Thibaut), 68, Dec. 13**  
St. Leo Church, Columbus

**HOMON, Thomas J., 74, Dec. 14**  
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Columbus

**HOOKER, David, 77, Dec. 11**  
Immaculate Conception Church, Dennison

**HREN, Joseph, 59, Dec. 10**  
Immaculate Conception Church, Dennison

**IMMKE, Charlotte (Lutzweiler), 94, Dec. 16**  
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

**KILEY, David, 70, Nov. 19**  
St. Joseph Church, Plain City

**MADRY, Joyce A., 65, Dec. 13**  
St. Joseph Church, Plain City

**MARTIN, Margaret B., 97, Dec. 10**  
St. Catharine Church, Columbus

**MEREDITH, John E., 76, Dec. 9**  
Sacred Heart Church, Coshocton

**MILLER, Louann E. (Hoyt), 74, Dec. 14**  
St. Peter Church, Columbus

**MINGUS, Janice E. (Lemity), 78, Dec. 9**  
Church of the Atonement, Crooksville

**MULLIN, Thomas E. "Moon," 91, Dec. 15**  
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

**REVILLA, Dr. Leon S., 89, Dec. 9**  
St. Mary Church, Marion

**RUBECK, Mary R. (Gebbart), 93, Dec. 12**  
St. Mary Church, Marion

**VOLPE, Peter A. Jr., 75, Dec. 10**  
St. Brendan Church, Hilliard

## Father Andrew Apostoli, CFR

Franciscan friar and EWTN television and radio host Father Andrew Apostoli, CFR, died in New York City on Wednesday, Dec. 13 after a battle with cancer. He was 75.

Father Apostoli was a founding member of the Franciscan Friars of Renewal in 1987. For 25 years, he was frequently seen and heard on EWTN television and radio programs, most notably as the host of *Sunday Night Prime*. He also was considered one of the world's leading experts on Our Lady of Fatima and the author of several books.

"Father Andrew conformed his life to Christ's," said Father John Paul Ouellete, superior of the Friars of the Renewal. "As a priest, he was led by his relationship with the Holy Spirit, Our Lady, and Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, and continually worked toward the renewal of the priesthood.

"As a Franciscan, St. Francis was the clear inspiration for his humility, humor, and his simplicity in word and deed. Father Andrew's faithfulness and joy urge us to live the joy found in the Gospel."

Born Joseph Dominic Apostoli on July 3, 1942, in Woodbury, New Jersey, he was inspired by the witness of

the Capuchin Franciscan friars at his parish in the eighth grade to enter religious life. While in high school, he met Archbishop Sheen, who ordained him on March 16, 1967. Father Apostoli later would become vice postulator for Archbishop Sheen's cause for canonization.

In addition to founding the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, Father Apostoli was involved in the founding of the Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal in 1988.

He wrote on many spiritual topics. His most recent book is *Answering the Questions of Jesus*, and he wrote the definitive work *Fatima for Today*. He also was a seminary instructor and a retreat master and led pilgrimages.

His first EWTN appearance came in July 1993 on *Mother Angelica Live* with Father Benedict Groeschel. Father Apostoli's first series of his own began airing in 1995. He took over as EWTN's *Sunday Night Prime* host for Father Groeschel in 2012.

His Franciscan community now includes 128 priests and brothers and 35 sisters.

*Information from Catholic News Agency was used in this story.*

## Lawrence J. Sorohan

Funeral Mass for Lawrence J. Sorohan, 85, who died Friday, Dec. 15, was held Tuesday, Dec. 19 at St. Luke Church, Dahlonega, Georgia. He was a brother of Msgr. David Sorohan, a priest of the Diocese of Columbus for 58 years.

He was born May 31, 1932 in New Lexington to Vern and Leoma Sorohan and graduated from the University of Dayton with a degree in education. He later earned a doctoral degree from

Ohio University.

He was a teacher at the University of Dayton, the University of North Carolina-Greensboro, and North Georgia College. He was active in civic affairs in Dahlonega, where he was one of the leaders in restoration of a theater, building a library, and establishing a park.

Besides his brother, survivors include his wife, Sallie (Griffin); and four sons, Bryan, Jonathan, Larry, and Paul.

## Kenneth E. Little

Funeral Mass for Kenneth E. Little, 79, who died Wednesday, Dec. 13, was held Saturday, Dec. 16, in Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus. Burial was at the cemetery.

He was a retired employee of the diocesan cemeteries, which he served for 45 years. He also was a volunteer at the Franklin County Dog and Animal Shel-

ter, where he was volunteer of the year in 2009, and was a veteran of the Army.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Charles and Elsie; wife, Phyllis; son, Frank; daughter, Kathy (Jeff); brothers, William and Glenn (Sharon); sisters, Janet Griffey, Nancy, and Jeanne; two grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.





**AM 820**

CATHOLIC RADIO

*Lend an ear!*

# H A P P E N I N G S

## DECEMBER

### THROUGH JAN. 6

**Manger Display and Festival of Trees at Jubilee Museum**  
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Jubilee Museum and Catholic Cultural Center, 57 S. Grubb St., Columbus. Mangers at the Museum exhibit of hundreds of Nativity sets from around the world, plus display of trees decorated by various Columbus organizations. \$10 adults, \$5 seniors and students. **614-600-0054**

### 21, THURSDAY

**Cenacle at Holy Name**  
6 p.m., Holy Name Church, 154 E. Patterson Ave., Columbus. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, with prayers in the Cenacle format of the Marian Movement of Priests.  
**Holy Hour at Holy Family**  
6 to 7 p.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Holy Hour of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by meeting of parish Holy Name and Junior Holy Name societies, with refreshments. **614-221-4323**  
**Sung Vespers, Benediction at St. Margaret of Cortona**  
7 p.m., St. Margaret of Cortona Church, 1600 N. Hague Ave., Columbus. Parish's regular Thursday Eucharistic Adoration concludes with sung Vespers and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. **614-279-1690**  
**Abortion Recovery Network Group**  
7 to 8 p.m., Gateway Center, 2670 N. Columbus St., Lancaster. Abortion recovery network group meeting for anyone interested in recovering from abortion or who has been through a recovery program, and wants to stay connected. **614-721-2100**

All fund-raising events (festivals, bazaars, spaghetti dinners, fish fries, bake sales, pizza/sub sales, candy sales, etc.) will be placed in the "Fund-Raising Guide."

An entry into the Guide will be \$18.50 for the first six lines, and \$2.65 for each additional line.

For more information, call David Garick at 614-224-5195.

### 'Happenings' submissions

Notices for items of Catholic interest must be received at least 12 days before expected publication date. We will print them as space permits.

Items not received before this deadline may not be published.

Listings cannot be taken by phone.  
Mail to Catholic Times Happenings,  
197 E. Gay St., Columbus OH 43215  
Fax to 614-241-2518

E-mail as text to  
tputet@columbuscatholic.org

**Frassati Society Meeting at Columbus St. Patrick**  
7 p.m., Aquinas Hall, St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Meeting of parish's Frassati Society for young adults. "Christ in the City" program with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, confession, Taize chant, and night prayer, followed by refreshments at Claddagh Irish Pub. **614-224-9522**

**Shepherd's Corner Labyrinth Walk**  
7 to 8:30 p.m., Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center, 987 N. Waggoner Road, Blacklick. Labyrinth walk with theme "Light" on evening of the winter solstice, led by Roberta Hammond. Suggested donation \$5. **614-866-4302**  
**Children's Christmas Program at St. John Neumann**  
7 p.m., St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 37, Sunbury. Christmas program featuring children in kindergarten through fifth grade. **740-965-1358**

### 21-23, THURSDAY-SATURDAY

**Simbang Gabi Celebration at St. Elizabeth**  
7:30 p.m., St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. Simbang Gabi, a Filipino Christmas tradition, featuring celebration of Mass for nine consecutive nights. Dec. 23 closing celebration begins with Mass at 7, followed by potluck in Pastors' Hall.

### 23, SATURDAY

**Life and Mercy Mass in Plain City**  
9 a.m. Mass, St. Joseph Church, 140 West Ave., Plain City. Saturday Life and Mercy Mass, followed by rosary and confession.  
**Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter**  
7:30 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass for the Fourth Sunday of Advent in Spanish. **706-761-4054**

### 24, SUNDAY

**Exposition at Buckeye Lake Our Lady of Mount Carmel**  
9:15 to 10:15 a.m., Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, 5133 Walnut Road S.E., Buckeye Lake. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every Sunday during Advent. **740-928-3266**

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

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

### 25, MONDAY

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

### 26, TUESDAY

**Padre Pio Prayer Group at St. John the Baptist**  
12:30 p.m., St. John the Baptist Church, 168 E. Lincoln Ave., Columbus. Padre Pio Prayer Group meeting, including rosary, devotions, and 1 p.m. Mass. **614-294-5319**

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

### 28, THURSDAY

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

### 30, SATURDAY

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

### 31, SUNDAY

**Prayer Group Meeting at Christ the King**  
5 to 7 p.m., Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus (enter at daily Mass entrance). Weekly parish prayer group meets for praise, worship, ministry, and teaching. **614-237-0401**  
**Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter**  
7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish. **706-761-4054**

## JANUARY

### 1, MONDAY

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

### 2, TUESDAY

**Our Lady of Good Success Study Group**  
11 a.m., Sacred Heart Church, 893 Hamlet St., Columbus. Monthly meeting of Our Lady of Good Success study group. Eucharistic Holy Hour in church, followed by catechesis study and discussion. **614-372-5249**

**Serra Club of North Columbus Meeting**  
Noon, Jessing Center, Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus. Serra Club of North Columbus meeting. Speaker: Father Jeff Rimelspach, club chaplain and pastor of Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona Church, on his trip to Antarctica. Reservations required.

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

**Abortion Recovery Network Group**  
7 to 8 p.m., Pregnancy Decision Health Center, 665 E. Dublin-Granville Road, Columbus. Abortion recovery network group meeting for anyone interested in recovering from abortion or who has been through a recovery program, and wants to stay connected. **614-721-2100**

**Catholic War Veterans Monthly Meeting**  
7 p.m., Red Room, St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Catholic War Veterans Post 1936 meeting. For those who served three months, were honorably discharged, or are on active duty. **614-221-7601**

### 3, WEDNESDAY

**Marian Devotion at St. Elizabeth**  
7 p.m., St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. Marian devotion with Scriptural rosary, followed by Mass and monthly novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, with Father Ramon Owerla, CFC. **614-891-0150**

### 4, THURSDAY

**Cenacle at Holy Name**  
6 p.m., Holy Name Church, 154 E. Patterson Ave., Columbus. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, with prayers in the Cenacle format of the Marian Movement of Priests.  
**Scripture Study at Columbus St. Patrick**  
7 p.m., Aquinas Hall, St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Part 2 of Scott Hahn's 11-part "The Bible and the Sacraments: A Journey Through Scripture." **614-224-9522**

### 5, FRIDAY

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

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

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

### 6, SATURDAY

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

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

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

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

**Lay Missionaries of Charity Day of Prayer**  
9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 893 Hamlet St., Columbus. Monthly day of prayer for Columbus chapter of Lay Missionaries of Charity. **614-372-5249**

**First Saturday Mass at Holy Family**  
9 a.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. First Saturday Mass for world peace and in reparation for blasphemies against the Virgin Mary, as requested by Our Lady of Fatima. **614-221-1890**

**Prayer Group Meeting at Christ the King**  
5 to 7 p.m., Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus (enter at daily Mass entrance). Weekly parish prayer group meets for praise, worship, ministry, and teaching. **614-237-0401**

**Bishop Ready Scholarship Exam**  
9 to 11 a.m., Bishop Ready High School, 707 Salisbury Road, Columbus. Scholarship exam for students who will enter as freshmen in the fall. **614-276-5263**

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

**Frassati Society Game Night**  
7 p.m., Party house, Chatham Village, 966 Chatham Lane, Columbus. Game Night with Columbus St. Patrick Church Frassati Society for young adults.  
**Filipino Mass at St. Elizabeth**  
7:30 p.m., St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. Mass in the Tagalog language for members of the Filipino Catholic community. **614-891-0150**

### 7, SUNDAY

**St. Christopher Adult Religious Education**  
10 to 11:20 a.m., Library, Trinity Catholic School, 1440 Grandview Ave., Columbus. Part five of seven-part video series on "Wisdom: God's Vision for Life" by Jeff Cavins and Thomas Smith.





*Indiana town embodies  
Santa Claus and his spirit  
of love, peace, joy*

## SANTA CLAUS, INDIANA



**By Katie Rutter/Catholic News Service**

Belief in that iconic Christmas figure, the rotund merry man with a bag full of presents, inspires thousands of children to write letters addressed to “Santa Claus” each year.

Surprisingly, many of these wish lists actually do get delivered to Santa Claus. But rather than landing in a magical workshop at the North Pole, the notes wind up in a little Indiana town that bears the same name as the jolly old elf.

“We have already answered 5,000 and we’ll be getting more this morning,” Patricia Koch, founder of the Santa Claus Museum and Village, told Catholic News Service on Dec. 2. “They come from the U.S.A. and from all over the world.”

Koch and a dozen other volunteers work long hours to “help” Santa answer the letters that find their way to the Santa Claus post office. Koch calls this letter writing a ministry and is dedicated to keeping the spirit of Santa Claus, the person, alive.

“Our world can become very self-centered and commercialized,” she explained, “so I think Santa Claus has that spirit of love and forgiveness and peace and joy.”

The town itself, with a population of a little more than 2,400, seems to embody the persona of Santa Claus. Streets are named “Sleigh Bell Drive” and “Candy Cane Lane,” or even “Melchior,” “Balthazar” and “Kaspar” after the traditional names of the three wise men. Unsurprisingly, the Catholics of the town named their church after the man who inspired the myth: St. Nicholas.

“Just looking at his acts, we just see this kindness and seeing those who were less fortunate,” said Father John Brosmer, pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Dale, Indiana, which encompasses St. Nicholas Church and two other nearby worship sites.



St. Nicholas, also known as Nicholas of Myra, was a bishop in present-day Turkey who lived from about A.D. 280 to 343. He was the orphaned son of wealthy parents, and one ancient story claims that he threw bags of gold through the window of an impoverished family in the dead of night.

“In later versions, he drops a bag of gold through the chimney where it lands in a stocking that was hung there to dry,” explained Adam English, a professor at Campbell University in North Carolina and author of the book *The Saint Who Would Be Santa Claus*.

“What’s really memorable about it is that it’s an absolutely ordinary act of charity, of goodwill. This is the kind of thing that anybody can do,” English said.

That simple act of generosity inspired generations of anonymous gift-giving. Givers attributed mysterious presents to St. Nicholas and passed his story from culture to culture. In the Netherlands, his nickname was “Sinter Klaas,” which evolved to “Santa Claus” when Dutch immigrants arrived in New York.

St. Nicholas’ identity was forever established as a “jolly old elf” by the famous poem *A Visit from St. Nicholas*, penned by Clement Clarke Moore in 1822.

“(The poem) starts to change him from being a Christian bishop, stern and austere and presiding over the Eucharist, to being more of a gift-giver who’s maybe more a magical creature,” said English.

Today, the familiar images of this magical man are recreated throughout the town of Santa Claus. Huge statues that adorn the main highway and the town hall depict a smiling, rosy-cheeked figure with a large bag of toys, his red coat and hat looking nothing like clerical garb.

Still, for Santa enthusiasts, even this depiction echoes Christian beginnings that were simply transformed by American culture.

“I use the expression ‘extreme makeover,’” explained Father Joseph Marquis, a Byzantine Catholic priest who runs the St. Nicholas Institute. His program, based in Detroit, teaches the saint’s history to professional portrayals of Santa.

“They took away his miter and gave him a triangular cap and his bishop’s coat was shortened and lined with fur. The candy cane is an evolution from the crosier,” Father Marquis said.

Nicholas of Myra likely lacked the rounded figure

**Young parishioners shake hands on Saturday, Dec. 2 with an actor portraying St. Nicholas, the namesake of their church. St. Nicholas Catholic Church in Santa Claus, Indiana, hosted the visit from “St. Nick” ahead of the saint’s feast day, which was Wednesday, Dec. 6.**

CNS photo/Katie Rutter

characteristic of a diet of milk and cookies. His place in history would paint a stature hardened by persecution, perhaps even bearing the scars of torture. A contemporary of the emperor Diocletian, Nicholas lived through the most terrible persecution of the early church and was himself imprisoned.

“We know for sure his nose was broken,” said Father Marquis, referencing historical research done on the bones of the saint.

“They tortured his priests who were members of his flock to make him recant, and he wouldn’t do it,” Father Marquis said.

Nicholas of Myra also was hailed as a defender of justice, which might have led to Santa’s common question to young children, “Have you been good?” and the naughty-nice list that he must “check twice.” According to one legend, the bishop found out that a local judge had accepted a bribe and falsely condemned three men to death.

“Nicholas ran to the spot and literally grabbed the sword out of the executioner’s hand,” related Father Marquis.

“He pointed right at the guy for condemning them to death and the man actually confessed that he took money to condemn them,” he said.

St. Nicholas Church hosted a visit from its namesake to anticipate his Dec. 6 feast day. A white-bearded man wearing a miter and long red robes made a surprise appearance at the Sunday Vigil Mass on Saturday, Dec. 2 and handed out ornaments to all the parishioners.

“You can’t get away from Santa Claus here,” laughed parish Deacon Jim Woeckenberg.

The voice of St. Nicholas likely pursues Catholics during every Sunday liturgy. Historical documents confirm that Nicholas attended the Council of Nicaea in 325. While his direct contributions, if any, are unknown, the Nicene Creed was written during this council.

“You have echoes of the voice of St. Nicholas every Sunday when we recite the creed, which for me as a big St. Nicholas fan, indebted to him for so many things in my life, that’s important to me,” said Father Marquis.

Similarly, every bright-eyed child who rushes to the Christmas tree on Dec. 25 is indebted to this saint for the legacy of giving. But just as the town of Santa Claus stays on the map even after the holiday season, the local pastor said that the true spirit of St. Nick leads Catholics to generosity all year long.

“Growing up as a Christian, you want to share your gifts you want to give of yourself,” said Father Brosmer. “The true Christian is St. Nicholas.. It’s that generosity all the time.”

## Year in review: In Rome and abroad, pope urges unity, care for poor

By **Cindy Wooden**

*Catholic News Service*

Pope Francis spent much of 2017 preaching and teaching about the need to value differences rather than fear them, and he adopted legislation that would allow more room for diversity within the Catholic Church.

In his frequent comments about migration and on most of his foreign trips, the pope also tried to convince political, civic and religious leaders that being welcoming, respecting differences and being willing to listen to another's point of view and experience actually enrich a society.

From his trips to Egypt, where anti-Christian violence has sorely tried Christian-Muslim relations, to Colombia, which is recovering from a civil war, and most recently to Myanmar and Bangladesh, Pope Francis tried to convince people that peaceful coexistence and even unity do not require the erasing of all differences. In fact, during his trip to the two Asian nations, he defined as "ideological and cultural colonization" the political and social pressures to homogenize society.

"The unity we share and celebrate is born of diversity," he told the bishops of Myanmar on Nov. 29. "Never forget this -- it is born of diversity! It values people's differences as a source of mutual enrichment and growth. It invites people to come together in a culture of encounter and solidarity."

Pope Francis gave legislative weight to that view in October when he cre-



CNS photos/Paul Haring

ated two new eparchies, or dioceses, for the Syro-Malabar Catholic Church in India and extended the boundaries of two others. In a letter to all of the country's bishops, Latin- and Eastern-rite, he said the presence of two Catholic rites each with their own bishop in the same territory should not be seen as a sign of disunity, but of the richness of the one faith.

The other legislative decision that potentially could lead to greater diversity in the church was contained in Pope Francis' document, *Magnum Principium* ("The Great Principle"). It included changes to the *Code of Canon Law* to give national bishops' conferences greater responsibility in the process of translating liturgical texts into

local languages. The document was published on Sept. 9 and went into effect on Oct. 1.

In a letter giving further explanation three weeks later, Pope Francis said that while in the past, "the judgment regarding the fidelity to the Latin and the eventual corrections necessary was the task of the Congregation (for Divine Worship)," the new norms give "episcopal conferences the faculty of judging the worth and coherence of one or another term in translations from the original, even if in dialogue with the Holy See."

Pope Francis also grabbed headlines late in the year for two statements indicating further developments in Catholic social teaching, specifically re-

garding the death penalty and nuclear deterrence.

Marking the 25th anniversary of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* at the Vatican Oct. 11, Pope Francis said the catechism's discussion of the death penalty, already formally amended by St. John Paul II, needs to be even more explicitly against capital punishment.

The death penalty "is, in itself, contrary to the Gospel, because a decision is voluntarily made to suppress a human life, which is always sacred in the eyes of the Creator and of whom, in the last analysis, only God can be the true judge and guarantor," the pope said.

Pope Francis' remarks about nuclear deterrence came at a Vatican conference in early November. For decades, the popes had said the policy of nuclear deterrence could be morally acceptable as long as real work was underway on a complete ban of the weapons.

But at the conference, Pope Francis said that today, with nuclear weapons, "the threat of their use as well as their very possession is to be firmly condemned."

He later explained to journalists that the increased sophistication of the weapons means "you risk the destruction of humanity, or a great part of humanity."

While Pope Francis used large public Masses, his early morning Mass homilies and his Wednesday general

See **REVIEW**, Page 20



Pope Francis embraces Sheik Ahmed el-Tayeb, grand imam of Al-Azhar University, in Cairo on April 28



Pope Francis and Pope Tawadros II of Alexandria, patriarch of the Coptic Orthodox Church, in Cairo on April 28

**REVIEW, continued from Page 19**

audience talks to reach thousands of Catholics with his message, 2017 gave him an opportunity for face-to-face meetings with many world leaders, including U.S. President Donald Trump and Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

He welcomed Trump to the Vatican on May 24 for a visit described in the official statement as “cordial.” Common ground was found on the issues of protecting the unborn and defending religious freedom. But they also discussed their different positions on climate change and on the obligation to assist migrants and refugees.

Just a few days after he met the pope, Trump announced the U.S. was pulling out of the U.N. Paris agreement on climate change, an agreement the Vatican had urged him to uphold.

Just hours after Pope Francis appealed on Dec. 6 for “wisdom and prudence” in protecting the status quo of Jerusalem, Trump publicly announced formal U.S. recognition of the city as Israel’s capital and a project to begin moving the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv. The Holy See, like the overwhelming majority of nations, has said political control of the city must be determined by negotiation as part of an Israeli-Palestinian peace process. In addition, for decades the Vatican has urged a special status for the city to guarantee Jews, Muslims and Christians access to their faith’s holy sites.

Pope Francis also spent months urging the international community to ensure the new U.N. global compacts on migration and on refugees would support programs to help the poor stay in

**Photos, top to bottom: Pope Francis meets President Trump at the Vatican on May 24.**

**The 2017 March for Life in Washington on Jan. 27.**

**The Vatican’s Nativity scene and Christmas tree.**

CNS photos

their countries rather than migrate and would open safe and legal immigration pathways for people fleeing extreme poverty and conflict.

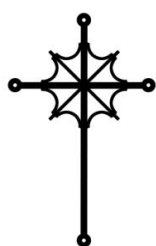
Citing U.S. sovereignty, the Trump administration announced on Dec. 3 that the U.S. was pulling out of negotiations on the global compact on migration.

Unity in diversity and care for the poorest and most vulnerable members of society also were on Pope Francis’ mind in early June when he joined celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of the Catholic charismatic renewal.

Celebrating Pentecost with tens of thousands of Catholic charismatics from around the world and with dozens of Pentecostal and evangelical leaders, the pope said, “In a way both creative and unexpected,” the Holy Spirit “generates diversity, for in every age he causes new and varied charisms to blossom. Then he brings about unity: he joins together, gathers and restores harmony.”

Christians, he said, must be “united by the work of the Holy Spirit in prayer and in action on behalf of those who are weaker.”

“Walk together. Work together. Love each other,” Pope Francis said.



## THE JUBILEE MUSEUM

PRESERVING THE CATHOLIC MIND AND MEMORY

Shawn Kenney, Father Kevin Lutz and the staff of the Jubilee Museum THANK YOU, Dave Garick, for your many years of dedicated service to the Diocese of Columbus.

Dave, your talent for prose and your creative spirit incorporated into the publishing of the Catholic Times has been a valuable gift to the Faith of God’s people.

*We thank you and wish you a Happy and Refreshing Retirement!*