



DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

CATHOLIC TIMES

A journal of Catholic life in Ohio

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DIOCESAN AGENCIES AND PARISHES
ARE ADDRESSING THE OPIOID CRISIS

Editor's Reflections by Doug Bean, Editor

THE PATRONAGE AND WISDOM OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES



If you've had the privilege to visit Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral or attend Mass there, you probably noticed a statue on the wall in the back of the sanctuary.

An inscription is written below. You might have recognized the statue as St. Francis de Sales. If you didn't, his name is part of the inscription. That probably clued you in.

What you might not have known is why he's there. St. Francis de Sales is not only a

Doctor of the Church and one of the most esteemed bishops in Church history, but he is the patron saint of the Diocese of Columbus.

No one seems to know for sure how St. Francis de Sales became the patron of the diocese. One possibility is that Archbishop Henry Moeller, the bishop who led the diocese from 1900 to 1903, was responsible for it. He came to Columbus from the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, where St. Francis de Sales also is the patron. He recognized that the Columbus diocese was without a patron and might have decided that uniformity was best.

The inscription reads: "Saint Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the Church, Patron of the Diocese of Columbus, Pray for us!"

Through the years, St. Francis de Sales became integrated into the fabric of the diocese. A Columbus high school and parishes in Newark and Newcomerstown still bear his name. All have special devotion to him.

Bishop Frederick Campbell will offer a patro-

nal Mass at Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School on the morning of Wednesday, Jan. 24. When the school was launched in 1960, it was given its name based on St. Francis being the patron of the diocese.

St. Francis de Sales Church in Newcomerstown will hold a Feast of St. Francis presentation on Jan. 21. At St. Francis de Sales Church in Newark, there will be a special school Mass on Jan. 24, and Sunday Masses on Jan. 28 will commemorate the patron saint.

Those events are scheduled in conjunction with St. Francis de Sales' feast day on Jan. 24. That was the date of his burial in Italy in 1623. Francis de Sales was elevated to sainthood in 1665 and was declared a Doctor of the Church – a designation given to a saint whose writing, preaching, or teaching is considered exemplary – in 1877 by Pope Pius IX.

The feast is an important day for the diocese and for the media. St. Francis de Sales is recognized as the patron of the Catholic press and of all journalists and writers. Anyone in the media – or anyone, really, who enjoys spiritual or secular writing – should consider praying to him for inspiration.

It's interesting to note that he remains the patron of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and the Dioceses of Baker, Oregon, and Wilmington, Delaware. In addition, he is a patron for deaf persons and an inspiration for several religious orders, including the Salesians of Don Bosco; the Paulist Fathers, who staff the Newman Center at The Ohio State University in Columbus; and the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest.

St. Francis de Sales, who served as the bishop of Geneva, Switzerland, was known for his gentleness and kindness, as well as his great gift for writing about faith. His most recognizable work, *An Introduction to the Devout Life*, is a spiritual classic. Among his other profound books is his *Treatise on the Love of God*.

Three are so many pearls of wisdom that come

from the saint. They can be consoling, enlightening, and inspirational, depending on your state in life. The following are just a few nuggets from St. Francis de Sales:

"Perfection does not consist in being perfect or in acting perfectly. It is the striving for perfection that is important."

"When humility and meekness are good and true, they preserve us from the inflammation and swelling that injuries usually cause in our hearts."

"No matter how slight contrition may be, provided only that it is genuine, and especially when it is joined to the power of the sacraments, it cleanses sufficiently from sin."

"Abandon yourself into the hands of Providence, without nourishing any other desire but to do whatever God wills."

"All rules have an exception. There is only one that has not: Nothing contrary to God's will."

"Some small temptations are very useful, for they make us examine our conscience and recall our baseness; so then we turn to God with renewed devotion."

"Do not despair of your shortcomings. Start over each day. You make spiritual progress by continually beginning again and again."

"Do not wish to be anything except what you are, and strive to be that perfectly."

"The more real and perfect our trust in God, the more Divine Providence will shine forth on us."

"Give thanks to Jesus Christ for his Incarnation, life, passion, and death, and for the love He manifests in this Holy Sacrifice. Implore him always to be merciful to you, your parents, friends, and the whole Church."

St. Francis de Sales, pray for us, and for the Diocese of Columbus.



Front page photo: Dreamstime stock photo

Correction - In a story on the Geyer family in its Jan. 14 edition, the Catholic Times failed to mention that former Columbus Bishop Hartley and St. Charles coach Jack Ryan is also a member of the halls of fame for Ohio high school coaches in football, basketball, and baseball.

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May every knee bow and every tongue confess that Jesus is Lord

By Leandro M. Tapay
Diocesan Missions Director

The 2018 membership drive of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith will take place on the weekend of Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 20 and 21. The event will be celebrated in churches and chapels around the world.

The society, which is under the direction and guidance of the Vatican's Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, is the main source of support for the Church's mission work, supporting approximately 1,150 dioceses in the mission areas of Africa, Asia, South America, and the Pacific Islands. The society helps sup-

port the training of priests and evangelization programs in areas where the Church is still young and small.

There is no formal membership in the society. To be a member, a person needs only to commit to help the missions; that is, to pray for the missions, offer sacrifices for the missions, and donate money to the missions. Fifteen thousand Masses are celebrated annually by missionaries for members of the society.

The society does not have by-laws or investments. At the end of each year, all the funds collected are divided and distributed to the missions all over the world. The society has two

major collections each year – a membership drive in January and World Mission Sunday in October. The society also receives funds through Mass stipends and legacy gifts. Some people designate a portion of their estate to the society. In doing so, their passion for the mission of Jesus continues, even after they are deceased.

The society was founded in 1822 by Blessed Pauline Jaricot, a young lady from Lyons, France. She formed an association of young women who worked in her father's silk factory and were devoted to praying and collecting funds for the missions. Each member contributed one cent every month,



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Through the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, we partake in the Church's mission to bring the message of God's Kingdom of love, mercy, and forgiveness "even to the ends of the earth."

On the weekend of Jan. 20 and 21, we will celebrate the society's Membership Sunday. With our membership in the society, we make a special commitment to the Church's

mission "to all peoples and nations" by pledging daily prayer and financial help.

In more than 1,150 mission dioceses worldwide, priests, religious brothers and sisters, and lay catechists rely on the prayers and financial assistance of the members of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

The missionaries count on this support as they help young people search for the meaning of life, comfort refugees in their spiritual and material needs, minister to the sick, teach children, prepare adults for baptism, and bring help to the suffering in times of war and natural disasters.

On Membership Sunday, let us pray for missionaries everywhere, especially the eight men and women from the Diocese of Columbus who are sharing Christ's Gospel message around the globe.

I am most grateful for your continuing generosity and support for the most important task of the Church – evangelization.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Rev. Frederick F. Campbell, DD, PhD
Bishop of Columbus

which was a decent amount in that day. Years later, the association became the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

In the 1800s, the United States was a mission territory. Missionaries who came to America were supported by Catholics in Europe. In the early 1920s, the Church in the United States became self-sufficient, and its subsidy from the Propagation of the Faith no longer was needed. The Church in the United States started sending missionaries to other missions and supporting the missions. Currently, the United States is the largest mission donor in the world. For that, let us praise the Lord!

Jesus has commanded His disciples and us to spread the Gospel to the ends of the earth. Though not all of us are called to go to mission lands, we all are called to support the missions

through our prayers, sacrifices, and financial donations.

Approximately two-thirds of the world's population has yet to hear the Gospel. Now it's our turn to support the men and women who are called to spread the Gospel in lands still untouched by it. We who have received the Gospel of Jesus Christ are charged with the task of living the Gospel in a clear and visible way and of passing on the treasure we have received. We look forward to the day when every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus is Lord.

May the Lord accomplish in us what He has accomplished in many missionaries who have gone before us. May He raise up many people willing to give up their lives that others will know the unsearchable riches of Christ and be transformed in the light of Christ's face.

Pope pays visit to Chile and Peru

A man arranges a banner with an image of Pope Francis in Santiago, Chile. The Holy Father is visiting Chile and Peru from Jan. 15-22 to take a message of hope and comfort to people on the margins of society, particularly indigenous people.

CNS photo/Pablo Sanhueza, Reuters



Pray with courage, conviction, not mindlessly, pope says

By Carol Glatz

Catholic News Service

Prayer is a “high stakes” endeavor, requiring courage, perseverance and patience, Pope Francis said.

Courage is needed to stick one’s neck out and “challenge the Lord,” pursuing and confronting him with one’s appeals, the pope said Jan. 12 in his homily at Mass in the Domus Sanctae Marthae.

“If prayer isn’t courageous, it isn’t Christian,” he said.

The pope reflected on two Gospel readings from St. Mark -- one describing Jesus’ healing of a leper and another recounting his healing of a paralytic. The leper challenged Jesus, begging him on his knees, “If you wish, you can make me clean.” Meanwhile, the paralytic and the four men car-

rying him refused to let the huge crowd prevent him from seeing the Lord, so they broke through the roof and lowered the man down to Jesus.

In both cases, the pope said, Jesus saw the great faith, courage and persistence in the people asking him for healing.

“Always, when we draw near to the Lord to ask him something, you must start with and (ask) with faith,” even challenging him like the leper, he said.

The other role model for prayer, he said, is the paralytic, who was someone in great need and who faced many difficulties, and yet he never gave up because “where there is a will, there is always a way.”

“So often you need patience and to know how to wait over time

and not give up, to always go forward,” Pope Francis said.

It’s necessary to have “courage to fight to get to the Lord, courage to have faith from the start. ‘If you wish, you can heal me. If you wish, I believe.’”

These Gospel readings should prompt people to reflect on how they pray, he said. Do people pray like “parrots,” echoing words with no interest or care in what one is asking, or do people “beg the Lord to help us (in) our little faith” and keep at it no matter the difficulties, he asked.

Courage is needed to “throw one’s hat in the ring,” he said, even if people do not get what they ask for right away, because prayer is a “high-stakes game.”

Back in His Arms Again Dinner

The annual dinner sponsored by the Back in His Arms Again Ministry will take place Thursday, Feb. 8 at Nugent Hall of Columbus St. Andrew Church, 1899 McCoy Road.

Doors open at 6 p.m., with dinner beginning at 6:45. Tickets are \$40 per person.

Back in His Arms Again provides educational resources, care, guidance, and financial services for families in need who are experiencing the loss of a child, and for those providing care to those families. Its mission is to

honor each life with a dignified and proper burial. It also sponsors memorial Masses three times each year in the Garden of the Holy Innocents at Resurrection Cemetery in Lewis Center.

Back in His Arms Again assists more than 100 families each month in central Ohio, and as more families use its services, its financial resources are constantly strained. The dinner is its principal fundraiser.

For more information, go to www.backinhisarmsagain.com or call (614) 906-3115.



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Decades of experience in bookkeeping, office, banking or trust administration preferred.

Please respond with resume and references to:
info.gfoffice@yahoo.com

Priest says family honor often pressures pregnant Lebanese women

By Doreen Abi Raad
Catholic News Service

Although people in the United States are preparing for the annual March for Life in Washington and other cities, no such preparations are underway in Lebanon, where abortion continues to be a taboo issue.

“The subject of abortion is very delicate because of our culture, our mentality, and our close-knit society,” said Maronite Father Albert Assaf, spiritual adviser for Rachel’s Vineyard in Lebanon. The ministry, founded in the United States, offers weekend retreats for women to heal spiritually after abortion.

Abortion is illegal in Lebanon. Although no statistics are available, abortions are occurring in the country under the guise of therapeutic abortion, which follows a diagnosis of medical necessity. Typically, the pregnant woman is referred by her doctor to another doctor, clinic or hospital in Lebanon for the procedure.

Yet the required medical diagnoses from the woman’s first doctor often are murky, Father Assaf told Catholic News Service.

“When the woman has already decided to terminate her pregnancy, the conditions become secondary, and so

the physician could bypass what is required,” he explained. “The laws in Lebanon should make more restrictions regarding therapeutic abortions in order to defend the life of the unborn.”

In his pastoral work, Father Assaf, a canon lawyer who has also taught bioethics, has met married couples who resorted to abortion as a means to put off raising a family or because they cannot support more children. The difficult economic situation in Lebanon has intensified, increasing the pressures on families to provide for their children, and there is no state-run social security system in place.

And for the unmarried, in a culture where family is everything, family honor is the unspoken driving force -- among Christians and Muslims alike -- behind decisions regarding a pregnancy. In Lebanon, it is considered a shame to the family if a woman is pregnant outside marriage.

Father Assaf relayed two examples of harsh actions stemming from pressures to preserve family honor: One young unmarried woman who was pregnant chose to continue with her pregnancy and not to abort her baby, so her father threw her out of the house.

Another unmarried young woman

gave in to the threats of someone who contacted her anonymously, saying that unless she paid them money, they would destroy her family’s reputation by revealing that she had an abortion. Out of fear, she gave in to the extortion, which ceased after she paid the set amount.

In some Muslim communities, an unwed pregnancy could be cause for an honor killing of the woman pregnant outside of marriage to remove “a stain” to the family name.

Compounding the anguish for single pregnant women, in Lebanon a child cannot be issued a state identification if only the mother’s name is on the birth certificate. Without such an identification card, the child would not be eligible to take official exams, for example, or to apply for a job.

Yet there is no formal network of outreach or counseling available to women considering abortion, nor are there centers to support those who choose to continue with the life they carry.

The Catholic Church focuses on such issues through family and life committees in both the Maronite Patriarchate and in the Assembly of Catholic Patriarchs in Lebanon.

From his experience as spiritual direc-

tor for Rachel’s Vineyard in Lebanon, Father Assaf said, he has seen great promise for the post-abortion healing ministry in the country.

“After attending a Rachel’s Vineyard retreat, many women and couples have said to me that that they were ‘born again,’ that it has given them a new life, a new beginning,” Father Assaf said.

Despite the prevailing challenges in Lebanon regarding the unborn, Father Assaf said he has “great hope in the new generation to go pro-life.”

“I would like for people to see life as a gift and as a grace,” he said.

In August, he was appointed chaplain at Notre Dame University Louaize in Zouk Mosbeh, Lebanon. Since then, he said, he has sent a personal email to each student for their birthday, thanking God for them and telling them he will remember them at Mass that day. Every student -- Christian, Muslim or Druze -- is included in the project.

“I think with my birthday project, I’m underlining this importance that each one of us is a gift -- to ourselves, to our family, to our society. Every life -- from conception until death -- is in the Lord’s hands,” he said.

Nigerian bishop condemns “cries of shrill Islamization”

Catholic News Agency

Bishop Matthew Kukah has decried “cries of shrill Islamization across the land,” which are enabled by government corruption, according to a Jan. 8 report from the Catholic News Service of Nigeria.



system is not working and that poverty is increasing,” Bishop Kukah told Catholic News Agency in 2014.

On Jan. 2, just weeks after his most recent remarks on the subject, Bishop Kukah’s brother, Yohana Sidi Kukah, was kidnapped, according to

The Nation, a Nigerian newspaper.

The Nation reported that Yohana Kukah was freed on Jan. 11 after spending more than a week in captivity. He is the paramount ruler of Ikulu chiefdom. The motivation for his kidnapping is not yet known.

Bishop Kukah has often been an outspoken critic of Nigerian officials, particularly Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari, who is frequently accused of using Islamic identity for political gain. In 2001, Buhari called for the implementation of Islam’s Sharia law across the country.

Nigeria’s Independent National Elec-

toral Commission announced on Jan. 10 that Nigeria’s presidential and assembly elections will be held on Feb. 16, 2019, according to The Associated Press.

Bishop Kukah has frequently called for peace during his six-year leadership of the Diocese of Sokoto, a region in northwestern Nigeria which is home to another religious leader, the Sultan of Sokoto, considered the most important Muslim spiritual leader in Nigeria.

Bishop Kukah holds a degree in peace studies, in addition to his studies at both Harvard and Oxford.

“Sadly, we seem again to have done what we do best; namely, squander these chances and allow the dark forces of bigotry, prejudice and greed to take hold, and today, we are far more divided than we have ever been in the history of our nation,” Bishop Kukah said on Dec. 8.

“When these things begin to happen, look up and hold your heads high, because the time when God will free you ... is near at hand,” he added.

St. Charles scholarship test

Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St., will offer its annual scholarship test to prospective students at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 27 in the school’s Robert C. Walter Student Commons. The test results are used to help determine who will receive merit-based scholarships and grants offered by the school to its students in the 2018-2019 school year.

For the 2017-2018 school year alone, St. Charles is providing more than \$340,000 in academic scholarships and an additional \$1.4 million in tuition assistance to students. The test is open to all eighth-grade boys who are enrolled at any at any public, parochial, or private elementary or middle school in Franklin and surrounding counties.

Anyone interested in sitting for the St. Charles scholarship test must register by calling Laurie Berndt in the school office at (614) 252-6714 between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Dispensation from abstinence; feelings after miscarriage

Q. Please settle a dispute I am having with a colleague. Our society's annual St. Patrick's dinner is normally held on a Friday during Lent. We therefore request a dispensation in order to serve steak that evening.

I contend that all we must do is to request that dispensation from the pastor of the parish in which the restaurant is located; my colleague, though, says that we need to go to the bishop of our diocese and that only a bishop can grant it. Who is correct?

(I went to a Jesuit college, St. Peter's; he went to a non-Jesuit school, Seton Hall, and I would love to prove him wrong. Of course, if he is right, I probably won't tell him!) (Central New Jersey)

A. Your question is a bit more complicated than you may have thought. The answer is that it depends on the diocese in which you are located. The church's *Code of Canon Law* situates the authority with the bishop:

"A diocesan bishop, whenever he judges that it contributes to their spiritual good, is able to dispense the faithful from universal and particular disciplinary laws issued for his territory or his subjects by the supreme authority of the church" (No. 87).

A later canon clarifies that "a pastor and other presbyters or deacons are not able to dispense from universal and particular law unless this power has been expressly granted to them" (No. 89). That later canon does seem to suggest, though, that the power to dispense from abstinence may at times be extended by a bishop to his priests -- and that is, in fact, both the law and the practice.

In 2017, when the feast of St. Patrick (March 17) occurred on a Friday, a statement from the Archdiocese of Detroit (to use just one example) said:

"All priests ministering in the archdiocese possess the faculty to dispense (remove) or commute (replace with something else) the obligation for an individual or family to abstain from meat on the Fridays of Lent. Therefore, those wanting to partake in a celebratory meal on St. Patrick's Day that includes meat simply need to talk to a priest, who may grant this 'for a just reason.'"

Generally, when a diocese on such an occasion lifts the obligation of abstinence, it stipulates that the person should choose some other penitential practice instead.

The Diocese of Dallas, for example, provided in 2017 that Catholics who chose to eat meat on March 17 should abstain either on March 16 or March 18. Creatively, the Dallas diocese offered still another option, *viz.*, "for a person to offer a decade of the rosary for the plight of immigrants/refugees or for the intention of an increase in vocations to the priesthood."

So the answer to your question depends on what your own diocese has provided for. (I recognize that my response does not resolve the Jesuit/non-Jesuit rivalry -- because both of you could be right!)



QUESTION & ANSWER

by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE
Catholic News Service

Q. A few years ago, I had a miscarriage early in a pregnancy. While my husband and I were sad, we never really felt a substantial loss -- perhaps because we quickly became pregnant again.

This is in stark contrast to the experiences of friends who suffered miscarriages later in pregnancy. They have been devastated and truly felt that they lost a person, not just a pregnancy. Are my feelings wrong -- or worse, sinful? (Cincinnati)

A. Please don't punish yourself. First of all, feelings are outside of our control; morally, we are not responsible for our feelings -- only for our words, actions or omissions. Yes, the church does teach that a child in the womb is a person from the moment of conception. (And science would seem to support this -- heartbeat at 24 days, brain waves at 43, etc.)

But surely, a mother's emotional link to the child grows as the pregnancy advances -- which makes it not surprising that a child lost later in pregnancy would prompt deeper pain. Thank God for the children who are with you now -- and look forward, one day, to meeting the one who went to heaven early.

Q. I've been reading about Pope Francis' dislike of people using cellphones to take pictures during Mass. He believes that it is disrespectful to the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist and creates a carnival-type atmosphere.

But at our parish, on special occasions -- like a Mass recently to dedicate our newly remodeled sanctuary -- cellphone photos are taken for the parish newsletter and the parish webpage. This is of particular help to shut-ins and keeps up their relationship with the parish.

Similarly, who could blame a visitor to Rome lucky enough to attend the pope's Mass for wanting to have a pictorial record? The pope asked "If Jesus were present, would you be in a state of worship or taking cell photos?" Could the answer be "Both"? (Southern Indiana)

A. I am quite confident that, if you were to ask Pope Francis, he would make an exception in the first example you suggest -- keeping shut-ins informed about special parish events through a parish newsletter.

But as for your other example -- a visitor to Rome snapping a photo during a papal Mass -- I am just as sure that the pope would say, "Sorry, but no. That's just what I'm talking about."

Here is what Pope Francis actually said at a Wednes-

day general audience in St. Peter's Square in early November 2017:

The pope said that when the priest says (as he begins the preface of the Mass), "'Lift up your hearts,' he is not saying, 'Lift up your cellphones and take a picture.'" "No," said the pope, "it is an awful thing." And he added, "It makes me sad when I celebrate (Mass) in the square or in the basilica and I see so many cellphones in the air. And not just by the lay faithful, some priests and bishops, too."

The Mass, the pontiff explained, is meant to draw a person into a transformative encounter with Jesus Christ, and anything that distracts from that personal meeting with the Lord is to be shunned.

I would feel differently about a papal event that was not a Mass. At the regular weekly audiences, for example -- which do not involve a Eucharist -- the pontiff moves throughout the crowd, and there is ample opportunity even for close-up photos.

Q. Thirty-five years ago, I met my husband and disobeyed my parents by pursuing a relationship with him. My parents are good people, and I at the time was a willful 17-year-old idiot. They told me that I could not receive Communion because I was in a state of sin and unrepentant.

So I left the church, and it has taken its toll. Now I would like to come back; my soul, I know, would be better off if I were going to church and receiving Communion. I am missing Christ very badly.

But the thing is this -- I still don't regret my love for my husband. He is a Southern Baptist and is very close to God in his own way. In order for me to return to the sacraments, do I have to leave him? He is a good man and doesn't deserve that kind of betrayal. (City of origin withheld)

A. Thank you for writing -- and the solution, it would seem, is fairly simple. I am assuming that you married your husband in an other-than-Catholic ceremony for which no permission had been granted by the Catholic Church. I am also assuming that your husband had never been married before (so that he does not need a Catholic annulment from a previous marriage).

You would by no means have to leave your husband now to return to the sacraments, nor should you. (Instead, you should thank God for bringing you into a union with a man who values his relationship with the Lord.)

What you need to do is to see your parish priest to arrange for a blessing (technically, a "convalidation") for your marriage -- and then you will be ready to return to the sacraments of penance and holy Communion.

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

Pilgrimage to Lourdes

The 64th National Rosary Pilgrimage to Lourdes, France, will take place from Sunday, July 1 to Wednesday, July 11, and will be led by Father Joseph Allen, OP, formerly of Youngstown, who has been on 63 previous Lourdes pilgrimages.

The local contact for the pilgrimage is Linda Woolard of Granville St. Edward Church. The pilgrimage will visit Lourdes, Nevers, Paris, Gavarnie, and St. Jean de Luz and celebrate the 160th anniversary of Mary's apparitions to St. Bernadette at Lourdes. Individuals, families, and parish groups are welcome. The pilgrims will be accompanied by clergy, medical staff, and volunteers.

Pilgrimage highlights include attending the international Mass on Sunday at Lourdes; daily Masses; following the life of St. Bernadette; the baths (miraculous waters) of Lourdes; the Miraculous Medal Shrine; the Grotto of Massabielle; an excursion into the Pyrenees to Gavarnie, and much more. For complete itinerary and registration forms, call or email Woolard at (740) 323-3105 or email lindawoolard@windstream.net.

The cost of the pilgrimage, departing from Kennedy Airport in New York, is \$2,940 per person, plus airline taxes of \$165. This does not include domestic air fare from Columbus. Single room supplement is \$425. The reservation deadline is Friday, March 30. A deposit check of \$400 per person, payable to "Catholic Travel Office," and sent to Lourdes Pilgrimage, Office of Catholic Travel, 5505 Granby Road, Rockville MD 20855 will secure reservations.

Cathedral donors, volunteers feed thousands of homeless

The staff at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral extends a big "thank you" to everyone who supports its daily ministry to feed the homeless and the needy.

"With the help of so many caring people, we were able to feed more than 18,500 persons during 2017," said Father Michael Lumpe, cathedral rector. "That help came in the form of monetary donations from various parishes and schools whose volunteers make sandwiches and deliver them to us throughout the year, persons who bring in sweatshirts and cold-weather clothing items, and, of course our faithful volunteers. This is Christ's teaching in action."

"We are a welcoming parish who see the face of Christ in all persons who come asking for this most basic necessity – food," Father Lumpe said. "Despite what people may think, we are not a parish of means, so all donations are very much appreciated."

Answering God's Call

'FATHER VINNY': A PRIEST FOR 60 YEARS, AT THE OSU CAMPUS SINCE 1990



Fr. Vincent McKiernan, CSP

by Tim Puet

Talk to almost anyone who's involved with the Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center and it probably won't be long before the name of "Father Vinny" pops up in conversation.

The reference is to Father Vincent McKiernan, CSP, who has been at the center on The Ohio State University's campus since 1990. He turned 87 on Jan. 15, celebrated his 60th anniversary as a priest with the Paulist Fathers in May 2017, and has the enthusiasm for life and the energy of someone much younger.

Ask him what his "secret" is and he says, "Nearly all of my priesthood has been spent with young people. I've always been comfortable with college-age men and women. I trust that I'm teaching them by the way I live. Now, as I get older, I find some of the students appear to see me as some sort of a wisdom figure. I'm not sure why, but some compare me to Yoda from 'Star Wars.'"

Father McKiernan's sense of humor and his love of wordplay are readily apparent in his "Vinamins" – short sayings which he describes as "clever, sometimes wise reflections on faith and life." Here are a few examples:

"Jesus who knew life came back to new life."

"To write to right a wrong is a rite."

"Advent: How adventuresome of God to want to become one of us!"

"The Master's Card. Congratulations! You have been pre-approved! 'I have loved you with an everlasting love. You are mine' (Jeremiah 31:3)."

The latter two are among his recent posts on Twitter, where Father McKiernan sends out a Vinamin a day. "I don't know much about technology, but I do have a Twitter account because its former 140-character limit is perfect for Vinamins," he said. The Vinamins first appeared in the Newman Center's weekly bulletin, and he's written enough of them to fill three books – "Vinamins," "Multi Vinamins," and "Mega Vinamins."

Father McKiernan says he felt a calling to the priesthood in his childhood. He wanted to be a Paulist priest because he grew up in a Paulist parish – Good Shepherd Church in northern Manhattan. "Legend has it that when I was eight years old. I had a case of pneumonia severe enough that I needed an oxygen tent in order to breathe," he said. "I already wanted to be an altar boy at that age, and said so while I was sick. The minimum age for altar boys in the parish was 10, so I had to wait. But the priests promised they'd let me be an altar boy as soon as I got better."

In the 1940s, young men could enter seminaries after graduating from grade school. Father McKiernan did so, and received his priestly training in Paulist institutions until his ordination on May 11, 1957, by New York Auxiliary Bishop James A. Griffiths.

His first assignment took him back to Good Shepherd, the parish where he grew up. "I was supposed to go to graduate school after ordination, but one of the priests at Good Shepherd died, and they needed another priest," he said.

"As the youngest priest there, I was placed in charge of the Catholic Youth Organization, which sponsored a weekly dance for about 500 teens. Those were the first dances I'd ever gone to, because I'd been at seminary during my teen years. So I was working with young people from the very beginning.

"Being at my home parish also meant I was the priest for con-

temporaries of my mom and dad. So there I was, preaching to all the people who knew me as a child," he said.

Father McKiernan was the third-oldest in a family of four boys and three girls. His three brothers and one of his sisters are deceased. One of his two remaining sisters is a member of the Sisters of Charity in New York.

After serving in his home parish, he studied at The Catholic University of America, earning a master's degree. He then taught Greek and Latin at St. Peter's College in Baltimore. His assignments during the next three decades included Paulist foundations in Chicago, Grand Rapids, Michigan, and New York City; Mount Paul Novitiate in Oak Ridge, New Jersey; and the Paulist Center in Boston. He also spent a year doing retreat work and preaching in the Northeast. He came to Columbus in 1990 after a year preaching parish missions in the Diocese of Reno, Nevada.

One of his most memorable experiences was a weekend retreat with Trappist monks of St. Joseph's Abbey in Spencer, Massachusetts, who were developing the form of meditation known as centering prayer, which encourages people to experience God's presence within. Father McKiernan describes it as "being present to the mystery of God loving unconditionally the mystery of us."

He leads weekly groups at the Newman Center on centering prayer and the Lectio Divina method of prayer, which focuses on particular Scripture passages. He also has conducted more than 100 introductory workshops on centering prayer at the Newman Center and at other churches.

On a regular basis, Father McKiernan can be found walking the labyrinth at The Ohio State University's Chadwick Arboretum, often with a group of people. A bench was placed there in his honor on his 50th anniversary as a Paulist priest. This past summer, for his 60th anniversary, he led groups of 10 people on a labyrinth walk on six occasions at different times of the day. "It's both a spiritual and a physical exercise," he said. "It takes 20 minutes to walk there and 20 back, and the labyrinth walk itself takes 20 minutes, so I know I'm getting at least an hour walking on these occasions."

Also for his 60th anniversary, the Newman Center created Father Vinny's Visionaries, a donor-recognition program for people who have committed to supporting the Newman Center through a planned gift. He has been involved for many years with the Interfaith Association of Central Ohio and the Spirituality Network in Columbus. Last year, he received the Spirituality Network's Hope for Today award.

"Sixty years as a priest have taught me that the most important virtues are gratitude and compassion," he said. "I'm very grateful for discovering my own vocation early. It was something I never doubted, yet paradoxically (a word Father Vinny frequently uses), the relative ease of my discernment experience somehow gave me great compassion toward the seminarians and the other young people I taught over the years who wondered whether they were following the right path."

"A priest is a good shepherd, as defined in John 10:14 – 'I know mine and mine know me,'" he said. "I have to be down-to-earth and make people aware that I have much the same difficulty in living out my faith as they do, so they can know me. Paradoxically, I think I'm able to disclose more about myself in preaching than in everyday conversation. I'm a Christian first, then I'm a priest."

Chinese bishop released from detention after more than seven months

By Catholic News Service

Bishop Peter Shao Zhumin of Wenzhou has been released by Chinese authorities after being detained for more than seven months, said the Asian Catholic website ucanews.com.

The bishop, who has not joined government-approved associations for church officials, was released on Jan. 3 and was expected to return to Wenzhou, one of China's biggest Christian cities, in late January.

A source who wanted to be unnamed told ucanews.com that after Bishop Shao was taken away in May, officials from the Wenzhou City Bureau of Ethnic and Religious Affairs tried to force him to sign an agreement. The agreement requested the bishop to support the State Administration for Religious Affairs and the self-election and self-ordination of bishops.

After a lot of pressure, Bishop Shao signed the agreement but added a remark that he did not agree with the terms, the source said.



“What the government is doing is like the Cultural Revolution, arresting you and forcing you to sign documents to support the authority,” the source said.

Bishop Shao was taken from his dio-

cese on May 18, his fourth detention since he was confirmed as a bishop in September 2016.

“However, it was the first time that officials from Wenzhou City Bureau

of Ethnic and Religious Affairs were involved to arrest him, while only national security officials did so in the past,” the source said.

The reason for the detention is still a mystery, but it is believed that a new director of Wenzhou Provincial Administration for Religious Affairs wanted to resolve “problems” concerning Bishop Shao by getting him to join the State Administration for Religious Affairs, ucanews.com reported.

As of Jan. 10, Bishop Shao was staying in a Catholic's home in Xining, 1,500 miles away from Wenzhou, and was scheduled to travel to Beijing for a hearing check on Jan. 22 before returning home.

Bishop Shao has a congenital ear disease. Last September, during his detention, he had ear surgery in Beijing.

Last June, the Vatican said it was saddened by the disappearance of Bishop Shao. The German government also publicly expressed the hope that the bishop would be released.

On cracked knuckles and self-care: a resolution for 2018

The themes emerge predictably. When it comes to New Year's resolutions, we gravitate toward the biggies: get healthy, get organized, get a life. We vow to travel more, read more, save more and volunteer more. We conjure visions of the expansive, to live life to the fullest.

Scan Twitter and you'll find a multitude of plans.

“In 2018, I will skydive. No exceptions.”

“Put myself out there. Don't be afraid of making a mistake.”

“No more plastic bags!!”

“I'd like my life to be as on point as my eyebrows in 2018.”

“I resolve to use my cookbooks more often!”

“2018 is the year we say goodbye to my auto loan.”

“I'm just going to leave the past in the past.”

My inspiration sprang from three cracked knuckles on my right hand – the casualty of a biting winter and dry skin. At first I ignored them. But I nicked them enough that I finally took the time to bandage them. The simple relief that provided gave me pause.

This year, I'm resolving to practice the art of self-care – and to do so within a faith-based framework, as a spiritual exercise. I want to take better care of myself so I can grow more fully into the person God designed me to be.

St. Francis de Sales, the great 16th-century bishop



and doctor of the church, is guiding my way. He was a prolific writer whose achievement was paved by patience and perspective.

“Be gentle with yourself,” he wrote. “It is unjust to demand something of yourself that is not in you.”

It might sound like the mantra for an anti-resolution, a permission slip to try less, but it contains the seeds for a more loving, creative way, an abundance made possible when you put on your own oxygen mask first.

I'm also entering into conversation with Catholics I admire to deepen my thinking and help my goal stick. I like to hear the details of what self-care looks like in action.

My pastor connects with friends or picks up a good novel. My sister-in-law pours a tall glass of Fairlife chocolate milk.

For my mom, a full-time granny nanny, self-care happens on Wednesday evenings when she joins fellow 60-somethings at a nearby grade school for

tap-dance class. They dance to Justin Timberlake's *Can't Stop the Feeling* – “I got that sunshine in my pocket, got that good soul in my feet” – and for an hour, their movement becomes music, heel to toe, toe to heel.

Wednesdays are when my friend Roxane doubles down on self-care: hitting the treadmill at the YMCA by day and heading to an hour of Adoration by night.

My aunt Jan also combines prayer and exercise, often walking as she prays the rosary. Reconciliation is another gift she embraces.

“I like to have something on the horizon to look forward to,” she added. Her dream of walking the Camino del Santiago, for instance, requires that she stay fit, ready for the opportunity. “And I like to practice the art of having fun!”

As we settle into 2018, I'm paying attention to the little forms of self-care that renew me: a citrus-scented face scrub that makes me feel squeaky clean, writing thank-you notes with a gel pen on cardstock paper, a pretty stamp, a morning prayer, a brisk walk, a hot bath.

I know it is pleasing to God when we care for ourselves, recognizing his great love for each of us and acting on it. It may not be as dramatic as skydiving, but it can be just as profound.

Christina Capecci is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota.



The promises we keep

Have you ever wondered about the litany of promises made at this time of year? It literally could fill an ocean. We seem to bring out all the stops when it comes to trying to change our outlook on life. We tell ourselves that if it sounds good, then there's certainly no harm in making such promises, especially if we have no intention of keeping them. We search for the easy way out instead of what may cause us to put forth any extra effort. Before you do this, though, remember that the road to Heaven isn't straight or paved in gold, but is a long and winding road, small yet foreseeable.

We have such hopes for a bright future ahead of us at the start of each new year. We reflect on the things that made us better and what made those hopes more convenient. What we tend to forget is what it took to get us to that point. What did we do that made us so successful? What did we do that made us a better person? Sometimes, it takes effort to build something lasting. It also can take much hard work and sacrifice. There is also a sense of the fear of never reaching the finish line. It makes the long road so unappetizing that we tend to shy away from it.

"A promise made is a promise kept," my dad used to always say to us as we grew up. I never really understood what he was trying to say until later on in life. The things we strive for in life are as important as the people who benefit from our efforts. We affect each other in so many critical ways that what we do in the present time can cause ripples that last long after those promises are made.

For me, it is such a wonderfully expressive and holy responsibility to help shape someone's attitude toward his or her unique situation, and maybe change it for the better, to help a person realize that something shared can be less of a burden. Isn't that how Christ wanted it? I know now that we are never alone, that our actions are just as important as our words. When we say a prayer or perform a kindness to our neighbor, we are helping not only that person, but ourselves.

God makes us live in the present, but allows us to reflect on what we have done and gives us the awesome opportunity to make this world a better place than it was when we first entered it. He gives us a new day, a new hour, a new minute, a new year to put forth our best response. and wishes the best for every one of us.



St. Thomas Aquinas once said that "to convert somebody, go and take them by the hand and guide them." It takes an extraordinary amount of courage to be uncomfortable, but that is how God meant it to be. It brings us closer to the people we meet, but also brings us closer to the humanity of life. He gives us time to be reborn and a chance to stand, walk, and deliver on the incredible journey of being an exception to the rule. Remember that even though something is not moving, it still has life. Sometimes, it takes just a gentle push or prayer in the right direction.

May God bless all of you in this new year. May His blessings follow and guide you wherever you go, and may His peace be with you always.

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

Let's resolve to develop a deeper prayer life in the new year

By Deb McEllistrem

Is your New Year's resolution to achieve a deeper prayer life? Yeah, me too. I'll make you a deal. You pray that my relationship with the Lord gets better in 2018 and I'll pray the same for you. Deal?

Assuming so, here's my strategy. I'm sure it's not 100 percent approved by renowned theologians, but I'm hoping it works for this Midwestern mom!

First, I have to break this effort into small steps. It's like weight loss. If I think about how much I want to accomplish, it gets too hard and I want to eat a cookie. I can't commit to being a saint in 2018; all I can commit to is going to confession once per month (or so) and setting aside 30 minutes to pray. And, frankly, I'm not even committing to 30 minutes in a row – just 30 minutes throughout the day.

This year's theme for prayer is a quote I heard recently – "To pray more is a decision. To pray better is a grace. To pray better is a grace given to those who decide to pray more." Let's hope that's accurate!

My first step is to breathe. Yep, that's it. I just focus on my breathing – in and out. And I tell the Lord, "See that? That whole breathing thing I'm doing? That's all You. Thank you for that. I didn't have to wake up this morning, but I did. And that's your gift to me. So, thank you."

My second step is to give someone all my troubles. If I don't do this, I end up distracted and the prayer time becomes futile. There's no one better than Our Blessed Mother for this. I start off telling her my troubles, what I need to do today, what my family is up to, who is sick, etc. I tell her, "Mother, I consecrate all of my efforts to you – whether they go well or not, I hope they fulfill God's will for myself and my family." Then I pray the way Mother Teresa used to tell her nuns to pray. I tell the Blessed Mother, "You give me your heart today and I'll give you mine." The goal is to see everyone I interact with as the Blessed Mother would – not as I would. This is harder than you'd think. I lose focus a lot. But still, I give it a shot.

My next step comes from Mother Angelica. In one of her books, she talks about distractions during prayer. We set aside time for prayer, time to speak to the Lord – and end up thinking about a million different things, none of them related to my prayer. When our prayer time ends, we realize we've lost all this precious time!

Mother Angelica's suggestion is simple: Meditate on Scripture, a passage of the Lord's life. Once you unite your prayer with some aspect of Jesus' life, it takes the focus off yourself. The Rosary is great for this. It gives you an event to meditate on with every decade.

There's a great podcast called Rosary Cast that prays a "Scriptural Rosary"; they read a section of the Bible (that relates to that decade) before every Hail Mary. It's great for those of us who are easily distracted.

Another resource is the Gospel from the U.S. bishops' website (they also have a homily recorded with each Gospel). Once I've got my mind off myself and onto the Lord, my prayer is much more fulfilling.

The next step is the hardest: Find some aspect of the Gospel and try to live it. For me, that takes strategizing, planning, failing completely, and then trying again. For example, we recently celebrated the Feast of the Holy Family. It still amazes me that the Creator. Of. The. Universe came to us as a small child. He had to be fed, dressed, and carried everywhere. He depended on Mary and Joseph totally. Completely docile to the will of His parents. What can I do to be docile like the Lord?

The final step comes from Mother Angelica – I'm paraphrasing, but she would tell the Lord, "I hope you had a good day. I hope people blessed you today. I hope they came back to you today and surrendered to you. I love you, Lord, and I bless you."

Whatever your goals are for 2018, I hope you achieve them. I will pray for you – and ask for your prayers, too! God bless you!



DRUG OVERDOSES KILLED MORE THAN 4,000 OHIOANS IN 2016, NEARLY DOUBLE THE 2013 TOTAL



BY TIM PUET
Reporter, Catholic Times

The proper use of drugs to relieve pain has saved countless lives. But the misuse of those same substances, especially in the last few years, has resulted in deadly consequences.

A report released last August by the Ohio Department of Health said drug overdoses killed 4,050 Ohioans in 2016. That's nearly double the 2,110 overdose deaths reported statewide in 2013, just three years earlier.

Nationwide, there were 63,632 drug deaths in 2016 – nearly 20 per 100,000 people, according to the National Centers for Health Statistics. That was 21 percent higher than the rate in 2015, when 52,404 died, the federal report said.

Most of those deaths were caused by illegal opioids such as heroin and fentanyl or by misuse of drugs that can be legally prescribed, but are classed as opioids because they are either derived from or chemically similar to compounds found in opium poppies. These substances include oxycodone and hydrocodone, which frequently are prescribed to help people deal with the pain resulting from minor surgery.

As opioid abuse has grown, its impact has affected nearly every part of society, including Catholic institutions. Bishop Frederick

DIocese DEVELOPING FAITH-BASED RESPONSE TO OPIOID CRISIS

Campbell talked about the great suffering caused by drug abuse as part of his series of talks on “God’s Creation, Our Common Home” in the spring of 2017.

As a follow-up to those talks, more than 140 representatives from about 45 parishes and schools throughout the Diocese of Columbus gathered this past September for a seminar on drug awareness sponsored by several diocesan departments. This event featured presentations by a variety of speakers representing diocesan and government agencies dealing with the drug addiction epidemic.

Following those presentations, the parishes and institutions were asked to develop individual plans to provide faith-based responses to the drug crisis. Those plans are taking shape in various ways.

Columbus Immaculate Conception Church is sponsoring a program this coming Monday, Jan. 22, at 7 p.m. on “The Modern Face of Addiction.” It will feature Franklin County Sheriff’s Deputy Cora Day, who is part of the sheriff’s DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program, as well as “Hidden in Plain Sight,” a display by the Tuscarawas County Anti-Drug Coalition which shows what looks like a typical teen’s room and displays many creative ways used by young people to avoid detection by their parents of substance abuse.

“This is intended to be the first of three programs the parish plans on drug abuse,” said Colleen Kent, principal of Columbus Immaculate Conception School. “The next one has a tentative theme of ‘The Modern Faith of Addiction’ and will focus on social media and its role. We’re still working on plans for the third program.

“Drug abuse has touched the lives of quite a few people the parish staff interacts with,” Kent said. “We had eight people at the seminar, including our pastor, Father Matt Hoover. We were especially impressed with the ‘Hidden in Plain Sight’ display

and came away with many good ideas. We’ve since met a couple of times to see what resources we have, developed this plan for three programs, and will be working on more ideas.”

Columbus St. Andrew Church is working with an organization known as Tyler’s Light, which is dedicated to helping people choose a drug-free life and to aiding family members and friends of those who are battling addiction. The parish and Tyler’s Light are sponsoring two presentations on Wednesday, Jan. 24 at the church’s Nugent Hall – one at 9 a.m. for St. Andrew School and one at 7 p.m. for the parish.

Tyler’s Light was named for Tyler Campbell of Pickerington, who died of an overdose at age 23 in 2011. He had developed an opiate-based addiction after being prescribed painkillers to deal with football-related injuries that occurred while he played for the University of Akron.

Columbus St. Mary Magdalene Church is hosting a program from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 30 on the potential for saving the lives of overdose victims by giving them the drug antidote known as naloxone. This substance blocks the effects of opioids and reverses an overdose, but cannot be used to get a person high.

Naloxone is contained in a nasal spray known as Narcan, which has kept many overdose victims from dying. When administered within the first minutes – even up to an hour or more – of a potentially fatal overdose, it can resuscitate a victim before that person’s fate is sealed.

Because of its lifesaving potential, it is carried by police, firefighters, and emergency medical personnel throughout the nation. In Ohio alone, emergency responders administered more than 43,000 doses of naloxone in 2017, up from 31,800 the previous year.

Mary Ann Graham, secretary at St. Mary Magdalene School, is organizing the naloxone training event and said those attending will



Bishop Frederick Campbell (left photo) and Kim Kehl of the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (right) were among speakers at a diocesan drug awareness seminar last September.
Photos/diocesan Office for Social Concerns

receive kits consisting of two doses of Narcan, while supplies last.

“Anyone who carries Narcan could save a life,” she said. “We’re well-aware of the drug problem at St. Mary Magdalene because the Hilltop neighborhood where the parish is located is a high-crime area. Our school has several children who are being raised by relatives because their parents are addicted. You can’t be in denial about the situation, and

we want to be proactive about it and provide a public service.”

She said St. Mary Magdalene also is making plans for an event with a representative from the Franklin County Sheriff’s Department’s Operation Street Smart program, which provides people with up-to-date information on trends, terminology, paraphernalia, and effects of drug use. That event will not take place until 2019 because Street

PRESIDENT TRUMP SIGNS BILL TO PROVIDE FENTANYL SCREENING EQUIPMENT

President Trump on Jan. 10 signed a bill to provide more money and equipment for detecting imported fentanyl before it reaches its distributors in the United States.

The bill allocates \$15 million to U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) for additional screening devices, laboratory equipment, facilities, and personnel.

The money will provide more portable chemical screening devices at ports of entry and mail and express consignment facilities, as well as additional fixed chemical screening devices in CBP laboratories.

It also will give CBP sufficient resources, personnel, and facilities – including scientists available at any time of the day or night – to interpret screening test results from the field, said U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown.

Brown, an Ohio Democrat, was

one of four original sponsors of the bill, which passed the House in October by a 412-3 vote and the Senate in December by unanimous consent. The bill is known as the INTERDICT Act (for International Trafficking Emergency Response by Detecting Incoming Contraband with Technology).

“Providing CBP with more screening devices and lab support will not only stop more fentanyl from coming into the U.S. It will also protect more agents in the field from exposure to dangerous substances,” Brown said.

“This law is about giving law enforcement the tools they need to keep fentanyl out of our country and off Ohio streets. We must build on this bipartisan momentum and come together to start combating the addiction epidemic like the public health emergency that it is.”

A different bill to step up fentanyl tracking by the U.S. Postal Service has not yet come to a vote in either house of Congress. It is sponsored by Ohio’s other U.S. senator, Rob Portman, a Republican, who also backed the INTERDICT Act. Brown supports the bill, saying its purposes match those of the INTERDICT Act in terms of keeping opioids from reaching Ohio communities.

Portman wants to require tracking information on all packages shipped to the United States from abroad. He said his STOP Act – which stands for Synthetics Trafficking and Overdose Prevention – would make it easier to trace synthetic opioids to their source if they are detected at a United States postal facility.

It also would bring Postal Service policy up to speed with that of private shipping services such as FedEx and UPS, which are re-



grams titled “Crucial Conversations” for parents, which looked at social media, addiction, and other subjects. Participants included counselors from the local Syntero Inc. agency and law enforcement representatives. A third presentation is scheduled for this coming spring.

Wheelersburg St. Peter in Chains and New Boston St. Monica churches are located in Scioto County, one of the areas

hit hardest by opioid addiction. Those two parishes have formed a ministry known as Raphael’s Hands, which offers support to the family and friends of people struggling with addiction. It does not offer counseling, but meets once a month for prayer, support, and encouragement through Scripture readings and sharing of participants’ stories.

“Raphael’s Hands is a place of rest, and everyone in the group is

there for each other,” said Theresa Metzler, the ministry’s director. “We are at a crisis level for addiction in Scioto County and so many in our parishes are impacted, yet no one wants to talk about it. The families so often carry the burden alone.”

The diocese and the Southern Ohio Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America have begun an interfaith dialogue on the opioid crisis. The Rev. Robert Abrams, assistant to the bishop for the synod, said the dialogue is an extension of joint discussions related to last year’s observance of the 500th anniversary of the events which led to formation of the Lutheran Church.

“Those who were involved in the planning for the anniversary found that we worked well together,” he said. “We had a similar passion for the Gospel and for practical work on social issues, so we decided to establish a joint opioid task force as

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President Trump signs the INTERDICT Act to aid the fight against imported fentanyl on Jan. 10 at the White House. One of its original sponsors, Democratic Sen. Sherrod Brown of Ohio, is at the far left. *White House photo/Joyce N. Boghosian*

quired by law to get information about senders. The post office was exempted from that post-

9/11 law because it handles far more packages and needed more time to consider the implications

on mail and commerce. *(Material from Cleveland.com was used in this story)*

ADDICTION, continued from Page 11

our next step. We've had three meetings so far, with about 15 people attending – divided pretty equally between Catholics and Lutherans, clergy and laity. What's especially interesting is that the pastors attending have come from areas significantly affected by drugs.

"We know we can't solve the problem. What we can do is to point out what the Gospel says to those affected by drugs and to show how the church can be supportive of all those who are suffering from this situation – not just the addicted, but those who love them."

Jerry Freewalt of the diocesan Office for Social Concerns said many other parishes are developing programs similar to those mentioned. He also said the diocese is continuing to work with representatives of state agencies and county alcohol, drug, and mental health boards, several of whom spoke or had displays at the drug awareness seminar.

Additional drug-related programs for the entire diocese are being planned. One such event is a seminar on trauma-informed care scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, June 11 and 12 at Columbus Bishop Watterson High School.

Trauma-informed care is an approach to healing which recognizes that the majority of behavioral health and addiction problems are neither disease nor disorder, but, rather, injury – an injury caused by one or more traumatic events, frequently during childhood.

Kim Kehl of the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services explained the philosophy behind the method in this way: "If my life has included a significant degree of adverse behavior, that is likely to affect my behavior and be a reason to feel despair, and I am going to try to find means of comfort to ease that despair. If I have emotional pain from an experience, I will try to find ways to eliminate that pain.

"Some ways are healthy – becoming involved in your work or in pursuing creative activity. Some aren't so healthy – dealing with prescription medicine the wrong way, alcohol abuse, gambling, violence toward others."

Kehl said at the drug awareness seminar that, when trained in trauma-informed care, people can promote healing by using five phrases when dealing with those who are addicted to drugs or face other traumatic situations: "What happened to you? I believe you. Thank you for trusting me enough to tell me. I am sorry that happened to you. And

I support whatever you choose to do.' Then, listen and be present. And then, listen and be present some more."

"Faith-based organizations can pay such an important role in healing people who feel they have lost any connection with life," said Kehl, a Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral parishioner. "If I am tied to a faith-based group, I have the ability to connect with others. They can serve as role models, as inspirations. What better place to do this than through the church?"

Diocesan agencies which have been active in organizing activities related to the opioid crisis include the offices of social concerns, youth and young adult ministry, Catholic schools, and religious education and catechesis. Information related to drugs may be found at the websites for each of those offices. Sean Robinson of the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry is in the process of combining that material and including it in one place on the web – www.columbuscatholic.org/drug-awareness.

"The site is still very much a work in progress, but it does have a great deal of information," Robinson said. "It's important to have a collaborative resource where all this individual content can be pulled together in one central location. I'm also hoping to include individual parish and school drug education efforts in the same place, as those programs develop."

The diocesan course of religious studies for elementary and secondary school students is not likely to be the first place one would look when searching for information about developing a positive self-image and discouraging drug abuse, but Judi Engel of the Office of Religious Education and Catechesis said this theme can be found throughout the document.

"It gives us a basis for caring about each other by reminding us that we are all God's children, endowed with the dignity that this confers, by virtue of our baptism," she said. "We are called to serve each other. I've heard it said that perhaps a separate class emphasizing human dignity should be included in the course of study, but that emphasis already can be found everywhere in the document.

"To first-graders, the message is 'God made you. God loves you. God loves everybody else and he asks you to do the same.' As children get older, it is expressed in phrases such as 'Every one of us is a gift from God. We are unique gifts with innate value and dignity.'"



"For older students, the question becomes 'The freedom God gave us includes the capacity to make choices that can be good and bad for us. How do we make good choices that prevent what is harmful and promote care for ourselves?'" Engel said.

Dr. Mark Hurst, medical director of the state mental health and addiction services department, said one of the great ironies of the opioid crisis is that it's a case of good intentions gone bad.

"The current situation has its roots in the mid-1990s, when there began to be a sense among physicians that they were inadequately addressing pain," he said. "There was the idea that pain was a vital sign similar to blood pressure, heart rate, respiratory rate, and temperature, and there was an increased perception that life should be pain-free.

"That was the wrong approach, but it took years to realize this. In the short term, opioids do relieve pain, but in the long term, they cause much more physical and emotional distress.

"There are legitimate uses for opioids," he said. "We need to be sure we adequately treat pain and are not overly restrictive. The key is to be prudent, to prescribe no more than necessary. And if you're prescribed an opioid and the pain is gone, then the opioid should be gone, too. If you have some left, get rid of it."

Hurst said one encouraging note amid the overall increase in overdose deaths in Ohio is that deaths involving prescription opioids declined in 2016 for the fifth straight year. "There was a 15 percent reduction, and I credit that to increased awareness," he said. "And the number of opioids dispensed in Ohio has been going down since 2011. But as that transformation is taking place, greater use of heroin and fentanyl continues to cause the number of drug deaths to rise, with fentanyl being by far the biggest contributor."

Fentanyl, heroin's synthetic cousin, is up to 100 times more potent than morphine and many times stronger than heroin, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. And carfentanyl, a member of the same drug family, is 100 times as potent as the same amount of fentanyl – so potent that it's used in tranquilizing elephants.

Hurst, a member of Columbus St. Elizabeth Church, said that in dealing with addicts, it's important to realize that "addiction is a brain disease. It is not a moral, will power, or character issue" and should not be treated as one. "Addiction is not merely about the use of a substance. It is about the brain's response to that use, which can result in certain behaviors" that are a consequence of addiction, not a cause.

He said this is one reason why "compassion for addicts is an important part of their treatment. It is one of the fundamental aspects of faith. Most people get into treatment because they fear something, and they are looking for hope to keep them going. That's where faith is so important. If an addict has the support of a faith community, there is an increased outcome of a better life."

Freewalt said that for people who are not dealing with a situation involving drug abuse, perhaps the most important message is "Stay in your lane. In other words, keep doing what you're doing in raising your families or volunteering, but look for resources that will help encourage healthy behavior.

"You don't need to be an expert, but there are things you can do that no one else can to help you live out your vocation and encourage others to do the same. If you see a situation that causes you concern, find where helpful resources are and know how to help.

"One of Pope Francis' favorite themes is that of accompaniment, of walking at people's side on their faith journey and not just listening to them, as Jesus accompanied the two disciples heading for Emmaus. All of us can find ways to walk with those who are struggling, to hear their stories. And sometimes if it's necessary, we need to urge them to please turn to treatment," Freewalt said.

For more information on programs of the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, call its toll-free help and information line at (1-877) 275-6364, or get in touch with its 24-hour crisis text line by texting the keyword "4hope" to 741 741.

Basketball helps priests teach New Jersey students about vocations

By Mary Stadnyk and Rich Fisher

Catholic News Service

Students at St. John Vianney High School in Holmdel, New Jersey, expected their recent pep rally to be fun, colorful and filled with good-natured competition.

But they were completely taken by surprise when six priests ran out onto the basketball court for a friendly exhibition game -- all with the intention to teach about vocations.

The basketball game was a way “to reach out and let them know that priests are approachable and they, too, can enjoy hobbies,” said Father Michael Wallack, priest secretary to Bishop David M. O’Connell of Trenton, New Jersey, and diocesan director of vocations.

He said he hoped that through the game, the message was conveyed that priests “don’t always just stay in the church all week, waiting for Sunday.”

“Most people don’t really know what a priest does during the week besides writing a homily,” said Father Wallack, who was joined on the court by Father John Michael Patilla, parochial vicar of St. Benedict Parish in Holmdel and chaplain for St. John Vianney High School; Father Augusto Gamalo, parochial vicar of St. Gregory the Great Parish in Hamilton Square; Father Thomas Vala and Father Gregg Abadilla, pastor and parochial vicar, respectively, of St. Clement Parish in Matawan; and Father Dean Gaudio, pastor of St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish in Avon-by-the-Sea.

It didn’t take long before the game between the St. John Vianney Lancers and the priests, who called themselves God Squad II, went from being a friendly game of hoops to a competitive match that resulted in a win for high schoolers. The diocesan communications staff produced a video of the game.

Also evident in the video and in comments following the game was the strong camaraderie between the priests as they reflected on how basketball could serve as an effective vocation recruitment tool.

“Sports is a good avenue to promote vocations and meet kids where they are at,” Father Patilla said.

Afterward, Father Vala, who smiled



Photos: From left, Fathers Michael Wallack, John Michael Patilla, Thomas Vala, Dean Gaudio, Augusto Gamalo, and Gregg Leo Abadilla at St. John Vianney High School in Holmdel, New Jersey; Father Patilla prepares to pass the basketball to a teammate. CNS photos/John Blaine

when he said he lasted longer than he thought he would in the game, thought the “kids got a kick out of it.”

The priests enjoyed sharing a bit on how they prepared for the game, with Father Gamalo saying “there’s some prayers involved,” especially because the priests did not have the opportunity to practice beforehand. Listening to upbeat music and watching games on television helped motivate Father Gamalo and Father Abadilla to give their all to the game.

Father Gaudio smiled as he shared how he thought the goal of the game was to show students that priests “are not all 70 years old” and can be everyday men who like sports.

“I would like to think there was a young man in today’s crowd who might be thinking of a vocation to the priesthood, and our appearance at the game got him thinking about it even more,” said Father Gaudio, who used to play basketball for Bound Brook High School and on an intramural team in St. Bonaventure University.

Father Vala said he hoped that through activities such as sports or music, the students can get to know a priest and share a friendship with him. And through that friendship, he hoped

students would feel comfortable approaching a priest when thinking about the priesthood as a vocation.

“The priesthood is a vocation to serve God, and in doing so, you touch the lives of others when you reach out to them and make a positive difference in their lives,” he said.

“When I embraced my Catholic faith in a serious and responsible way, I



found meaning and purpose,” he added, saying that being a priest has “brought me the joy and happiness that I sought in my life.”

After the game, James Guilbert, a senior and varsity basketball player at the high school, said he thought the game allowed the St. John Vianney community to “see a different aspect of priests’ lives and that they live normal lives, too.”

St. Michael to host five-part ‘Awaken!’ series

Worthington St. Michael Church, 5750 N. High St., will host a five-part series of talks for parents, with the overall theme “Awaken!” They will take place from 4:30 to 5:45 p.m., with each program consisting of a talk and a personal testimony, followed by Mass at 6 p.m.

The series is focused on empowering parents to a renewed personal relationship with the Trinity and equipping them with the tools to spread the Good News of the faith to their children, family, co-workers, and friends.

Katie Roden, parish religious education director, said the series is focused on parents because they are the primary teachers of faith for their children,

but is open to anyone who desires to know more about the Catholic faith.

Dates, speakers, and talks for the series are:

Jan. 28, Brad Pierron, lay missionary, “Why Be Catholic?”; Feb. 11, Monica Richards, lay missionary, “Who Is Jesus?”; March 18, Father Anthony Dinovo, St. Michael pastor, “Priest, Prophet, and King: Call to Abundant Life”; April 15, Dr. Perry Cahall, Pontifical College Josephinum professor, “Why Go to Mass?”; April 29, Theo Madrid, seminarian, and Meg Heller, youth minister, “Eucharist: Do You Truly Believe?”

For more information, contact Roden at (614) 888-5384, extension 136.

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle B)

The fullness of God's kingdom will always remain elusive



Father
Lawrence L. Hummer

**Jonah 3:1-5.10;
1 Corinthians 7:29-31;
Mark 1:14-20**

The book of Jonah has only four short chapters. It is included among the Prophets in the Old Testament, but most commentators regard it as a folk tale. No certain date for it can be determined, but many think it was written in the fourth century BC. Its use Sunday comes after Jonah finally decided to do the bidding of the Lord by prophesying to Nineveh about its pending destruction unless its residents repented. To Jonah's great disappointment, not to say surprise, the people of Nineveh believed God and proclaimed a fast for themselves. Upon seeing that, God "repented" of the intended destruction, and did not carry it out.

What really makes the story is Jonah's original attempt to flee from having to proclaim this message of destruction. He booked passage on a ship to Tarshish, attempting to flee from the Lord in the opposite direction. The Lord caused a storm to come up, and eventually his shipmates discovered he was in flight from his God. Finally, they threw Jonah overboard as an offering to the Lord, whereupon the Lord sent a big fish to swallow Jonah, allowing him time to think about trying to flee. Three days was enough time, after which Jonah was spit out onto the shore, where he came to his senses and decided it was a wiser course to obey the Lord.

The Gospel takes care to clear the stage of John before Jesus takes up John's reform preaching. "Proclaiming the Gospel of God" took place in Galilee. Mark never says precisely where John was preaching and baptizing, but it is clear that Jesus was entering Galilee (or re-entering it) after being at the Jordan River. The proclamation is effectively a summary of what Jesus

preached throughout his ministry: that the appointed time (Greek, *kairos*) has arrived; the kingdom of God, used here for the first time in the Gospel, is near (or at hand); and repentance and belief in the Gospel is central to the proclamation.

"The kingdom of God" is an expression Mark uses 14 times, but he never defines the term. He uses parables (especially chapter four) to describe what the kingdom is like, but never says what the kingdom is. It refers generally to the "rule of God." Yet God rules over all, all the time. The other puzzling idea about the "kingdom" is its "nearness." When we say something is near or at hand, it is not the same as saying it is here. The tension between what is already, but not yet complete (to paraphrase Karl Rahner's expression about the kingdom, "*das schon, aber noch nicht ganz*") always will exist because it was present from the beginning. Should that tension ever disappear, then the kingdom finally will have arrived.

Our very finite existence sustains that tension. Even Jesus, though revealed as the Son of God, still had to pass through death, which is the great contradiction of life. All people know that we hold death in common, yet so many fear it. It was only when Christ was raised from the dead that the limitations of human existence were removed and resurrection life, under the rule of God, could begin.

Nevertheless, because there is still sin in the world; because there are always those seeking power in conflict with the reign of God; because the pursuit of wealth far outweighs concern for the poor and the needy; because of all this and more, the fullness of God's kingdom will always remain elusive – near at times, but elusive.

After this announcement, Jesus called the first four of his disciples to follow him: fishermen all, Simon (Peter), Andrew, James, and John. They left both livelihood and family to follow him. Mark spares details of what was probably a more complicated process, but that is Mark's style: short and sweet, leaving details to others.

Father Lawrence Hummer, pastor of Chillicothe St. Mary Church, can be reached at hummerl@stmarychillicothe.com.

Family Honor to celebrate anniversary

The central Ohio chapter of Family Honor, a nonprofit organization providing a family-centered, Catholic approach to chastity education, is sponsoring a celebration of both its 15th anniversary and the 30th anniversary of the national Family Honor organization.

The event will take place from 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 10 in Patrick Hall of Columbus St. Patrick

Church, 280 N. Grant Ave.

Greg Schutte of Marriage Works! Ohio will speak on "The Fire of Your Love: How the Warmth of Your Marriage Is the Key to Your Child's Heart." Also speaking will be Dr. Michael Fagge, theology instructor at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School, on "Updates and Advancements in Family-Centered Chastity Education."

Central Ohio Family Honor team leader Tim Madrid will serve as master of ceremonies.

Hors d'oeuvres, dessert, and champagne will be available. Attire is modest semiformal. Tickets are \$10 per person, \$15 per couple, or \$50 for a table of eight. For more information, contact Rebecca Gjostein at rebeccagjostein@sbcglobal.net or (614) 406-3507.

The Weekday Bible Readings

MONDAY
2 Samuel 5:1-7,10
Psalm 89:20-22,25-26
Mark 3:22-30

TUESDAY
2 Samuel 6:12b-15,17-19
Psalm 24:7-10
Mark 3:31-35

WEDNESDAY
2 Samuel 7:4-17
Psalm 89:4-5,27-30
Mark 4:1-20

THURSDAY
Acts 22:3-16 or 9:1-22
Psalm 117:1-2
Mark 16:15-18

FRIDAY
2 Timothy 1:1-8 or Titus 1:1-5
Psalm 96:1-3,7-8a,10
Mark 4:26-34

SATURDAY
2 Samuel 12:1-7a,10-17
Psalm 51:12-17
Mark 4:35-41

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEK OF JANUARY 21, 2018

SUNDAY MASS

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

Mass with the Passionist Fathers at

7:30 a.m. on WWHO-TV (the CW), Channel 53, Columbus.

and 10:30 a.m. on WHIZ-TV, Channel 18, Zanesville. Check local cable system for cable channel listing.

Mass from Our Lady of the Angels Monastery, Birmingham, Ala., at 8 a.m. on EWTN (Spectrum Channel 385, Insight Channel 382, or WOW Channel 378).

(Encores at noon, 7 p.m., and midnight).

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

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

DAILY MASS

8 a.m., Our Lady of the Angels Monastery in Birmingham, Ala. (Encores at noon, 7 p.m. and midnight). See EWTN above; and on I-Lifetv

(Channel 113 in Ada, Logan, Millersburg, Murray City and Washington C.H.; Channel 125 in Marion, Newark, Newcomerstown and New Philadelphia; and Channel 207 in Zanesville); 8 p.m., St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com.

We pray Week III, Seasonal Proper of the Liturgy of the Hours

“Equilibrium” and ignominy

This past Dec. 18, Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, the head of the department of external relations of the Russian Orthodox Church, received an honorary degree from the Faculty of Theology of Apulia in Bari, on Italy’s Adriatic coast. During his remarks on that occasion, Hilarion thanked the Holy See “*per la sua posizione di equilibrio riguardo al conflitto in corso in Ucraina* (for its balanced position regarding the conflict underway in Ukraine).” Did anyone in the Vatican blush in shame at that compliment? A lot of high-ranking Roman churchmen should have.

Once again, as he has often done in the past, Metropolitan Hilarion used an ecumenical event to carry water for Vladimir Putin’s Kremlin and its war on independent Ukraine. Once again, the chief ecumenical officer of the Russian Orthodox Church misrepresented what is afoot in Ukraine. It is not a “conflict” but a Russian invasion and a low-intensity war, which has already cost more than 10,000 lives while displacing over a million persons and wreaking economic and social havoc in Ukraine’s Donbas region. And once again, Metropolitan Hilarion implicated the Holy See in that misrepresentation by praising the Vatican’s “balanced position.”

But what is a “balanced position” in this situation? A refusal to pronounce the words “invasion” and “annexation” when describing the reality of what Putin’s Russia has done in Crimea? A studied disinclination to use the word “war” to name what Russia has been conducting in the Donbas for the past several years? That, surely, would be more accurately described as pusillanimity and appeasement, rather than balance or equilibrium.

This “balance” is not only an abdication of moral



**THE CATHOLIC
DIFFERENCE**
George Weigel

responsibility; it is badly undercutting other Vatican goals in world politics. Shortly before Hilarion’s speech in Bari, a Vatican conference urged intensified efforts toward nuclear disarmament. Well, what has been the single greatest blow to nuclear non-proliferation in recent years? The Russian invasion and annexation of Crimea. Why? Because Russia’s actions effectively abrogated the 1994 Budapest Memorandum, according to which Ukraine agreed to give up all its Soviet-era nuclear weapons in exchange for a guarantee (signed by Russia, the United States, and Great Britain) of its territorial integrity and borders. After Russia got away with its Crimean gambit, it’s a safe bet that no nuclear weapons power will give up its arsenal in exchange for paper security guarantees for at least the next several decades.

In brief: it’s impossible to take a “balanced position” on the “conflict underway in Ukraine” and, at the same time, passionately promote nuclear disarmament. The former drastically undercuts the latter. Can no one in the Holy See connect the dots here?

In the face of what reasonable people will judge the Roman appeasement of its enemies, the Greek Catholic Church of Ukraine – the largest Catholic martyr-church of the 20th century – has been a model of fi-

delity to Rome: which is another reason why those responsible for Vatican policy toward Russia and Ukraine ought to have blushed in embarrassment at Metropolitan Hilarion’s compliment. No one would blame the Greek Catholic leadership in Ukraine for feeling, if not betrayed, then at the very least ill-served by the “balanced position” praised by Metropolitan Hilarion. Yet, under the most trying circumstances, Major Archbishop Sviatoslav Shevchuk and his colleagues, both clergy and laity, have gotten on with the New Evangelization in their war-torn country, providing a model of spiritual vitality and effective public engagement that a lot of Latin-rite Catholicism would do well to study and then emulate.

Here is one dimension of the Vatican’s ecumenical and diplomatic activity that cries out for radical reform. It is long past time for a thorough reexamination of the default positions that govern thinking about Russia, Ukraine, the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, and Catholic-Russian Orthodox ecumenical dialogue in the Holy See’s Secretariat of State and at the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity. The relevant officials in those Vatican offices might begin that reexamination with a close reading of Serhii Plokhy’s fine new book, *Lost Kingdom: The Quest for Empire and the Making of the Russian Nation from 1470 to the Present* (Basic Books). Among other things, the Harvard-based Plokhy explores the subservient relationship of the Russian Orthodox Church to Russian state power for over five centuries: a history that puts Metropolitan Hilarion’s latest propaganda exercise in Bari into its proper context.

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

Run the Race Club looking for volunteers

The Run the Race Club is looking for volunteers to help its efforts in providing spiritual, academic, physical, and emotional growth to children on the west side of Columbus.

This is the time when the families of those children have a chance to apply for scholarships that will enable them to attend excellent schools. The club’s founder, Rachel Muha, said there is a particular need for people who will assist the families in navigating the maze of documents that accompany applications for those scholarships.

Muha said there also is a need for tutors who will

come once a week to the Run the Race center at 880 S. Wayne Ave. in Columbus and help students who can’t change schools, but want to be the best students they can be.

Since 2005, the Run the Race Club has provided programs that promote personal and educational achievement for young people living in inner-city areas of Columbus, primarily the west side.

Muha founded the organization as a positive response to the slaying of her son Brian, one of two Franciscan University students who were assaulted in their off-campus home on May 31, 1999, taken to a nearby area of Pennsylvania, and murdered.

Muha forgave the young men who committed the crime, and she set up the Brian Muha Foundation to help children who are growing up in circumstances similar to those of Brian’s killers. The Run the Race Club is a part of the foundation.

Its ministry started with one little girl showing up at a small room in Columbus Holy Family Church.

It expanded first to the Holton Recreation Center in Columbus, then moved to its current location, where more than 400 children attend programs year-round. The club also offers seasonal activities at a farm in Galloway.

A healthy snack and meal is provided during each visit, ensuring that at least 50 children a day are not going to bed hungry. Racers receive a daily Bible lesson, plus tutoring, homework help, high-school equivalency diploma test preparation, sports, art, and music programs, and more. In addition, the center has a food pantry and provides clothing, furniture, appliances, and other items to children and their families when the need arises.

More than 400 volunteers, including youth groups from various schools and parishes, as well as students from the Pontifical College Josephinum, come to the center and the farm to be mentors and provide support for the Racers.

For more information about the club or the foundation, go to www.brianmuhafoundation.org.



Pray for our dead

ABBOTT, Matthew W., 51, Jan. 9

St. Aloysius Church, Columbus

BASS, Mary E., 65, Jan. 6

Our Lady of Victory Church, Columbus

BESST, Louis B., 88, Jan. 9

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

BROWN, Theresa M., 57, Jan. 12

Our Lady of Peace Church, Columbus

BRUNO, Josephine (Mazza), 90, Jan. 10

St. Mary Church, Marion

BRYAN, Thomas D., 65, Jan. 9

St. John XXIII Church, Canal Winchester

BUCKLES, Margaret A. (Judge), 71, Jan. 11

St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

CAWLEY, William, 74, Jan. 3

St. Mary Church, Delaware

FARGUS, Paula G. (Santore), 76, Jan. 10

St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

HARRISON, Delores (Higgins), 95, Jan. 8

St. Mary Magdalene Church, Columbus

HECK, James A., 82, Jan. 9

Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

HOELLER, John P., 78, Jan. 12

St. Andrew Church, Columbus

HUNDZIAK, Edith (Jordan), 96, Jan. 9

Mother Angelina McCrory Manor, Columbus

KEIFER, Joseph F., 95, Jan. 7

St. Anthony Church, Columbus

KENNEDY, Diane M., 62, Dec. 16

St. Brendan Church, Hilliard

KINGSLEY, Kenneth D., 96, Jan. 12

St. Mary Church, Marion

LEIDINGER, Josephine G., 88, Jan. 8

Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

MARTER, Evelyn (Ceschin), 91, Jan. 9

St. Anthony Church, Columbus

MAY, Dr. Eugene S., 74, Jan. 4

St. Joan of Arc Church, Powell

RITTER, Carlene A. (Reising), 82, Jan. 4

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

SCHMELTZER, Paul C., 98, Dec. 25

St. Mary Church, Bremen

SHUMATE, Clara (Culp), 75, Jan. 7

St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

SNOKE, Margaret E. (Souders), 94, Jan. 5

St. Mark Church, Lancaster

SOLINGER, Karen (Ford), 62, Jan. 8

St. Patrick Church, Columbus

STRAQUADINE, James J., 81, Jan. 8

Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

USILTON, Dr. Richard, 67, Nov. 28

St. Bernadette Church, Lancaster

WALD, Zita E. (Turner), 97, Jan. 12

St. Ladislav Church, Columbus

YENICHEK, Carl P.L., 93, Jan. 11

St. Ladislav Church, Columbus

Sister Francine Ashoff, OP

Funeral Mass for Sister Francine Ashoff, OP, 95, who died Tuesday, Jan. 9, was held Wednesday, Jan. 17 at the Motherhouse of the Dominican Sisters of Peace. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

She was born on Sept. 2, 1922, in Homestead, Pennsylvania, to Adam and Victoria (Paskert) Ashoff.

She received a bachelor of science degree in elementary education in 1954 from St. Mary of the Springs College (now Ohio Dominican University) and a master of education degree in social studies in 1974 from Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

She entered the Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs (now the Dominican Sisters of Peace) in 1941 and

made her profession of vows on Aug. 14, 1943.

In the Diocese of Columbus, she taught at Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas (1943-44), Columbus Holy Name (1949-50), Columbus St. James the Less (1956-57), and Lancaster St. Mary (1959-62) schools. She was a receptionist at the Mohun Health Care Center in Columbus in 1995 and 1996 and had a ministry of prayer and presence at the Mohun center from 2004 until her death. She also taught at schools in Pennsylvania, Michigan, Texas, Connecticut, and New York.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and brothers, Vincent and Donald. She is survived by brothers, Edwin and Alfred, and a sister, Bernice.

Our Lady of Bethlehem plans two open houses

Columbus Our Lady of Bethlehem School and Childcare, 4567 Olentangy River Road, will host an open house from 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 28.

The school serves children from six weeks old through kindergarten during the school year, as well as offering before- and after-school child care. It also has a summer program for children in preschool through grade six.

Its mission since its founding in

1956 has been to provide exceptional faith formation and early education in a safe, nurturing community to each student and family it serves.

Our Lady of Bethlehem's programs foster optimum growth, development, and academic success in each young child. The school's unique blend of tradition, proven curriculum, and individualized care and education give children a strong foundation for life-long learning.

Columbus St. Patrick to host 'last things' workshop

Are you entering your twilight years? Do you have aging parents? Are you interested in planning ahead to prevent unwanted surprises?

If you answered "Yes" to any of these questions, join Father Thomas More Garrett, OP, and specialists in various fields for a program titled "Into the Light: A Workshop Designed to Illuminate Your Approach Toward Last Things." It will take place at 9 a.m.

Saturday, Feb. 10 in the social hall of Columbus St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave,

Workshop participants will discuss topics such as funeral planning, advance care directives, senior care, and asset management. The presentation will aim to shed light on the Catholic Church's guidance and offer some practical advice for preparing for the passage from this life to the next.

Catholic school founder among those killed by mudslides in California

By Catholic News Service

The founder of a Catholic school in Ventura, California, is among those killed by mudslides in southern California, which have left at least 17 people dead and many others missing or injured in Montecito.

About 100 homes were destroyed and hundreds were severely damaged in the coastal enclave of about 9,000 people northwest of Los Angeles.

Several news accounts said that a mudslide swept Roy Rohter, who founded St. Augustine Academy in Ventura, and his wife, Theresa, from their home in Montecito early on Jan. 9. Theresa was rescued and said to be in stable condition, but Roy did not survive.

"Roy's life has been in service to his good, loving and ever-forgiving God," said Michael Van Hecke, St. Augustine's headmaster. "He has done so much for so many people and pro-life and Catholic education causes. ... Thousands have been blessed by the Rohters' friendship and generosity."

Heavy rains triggered the mudslides in an area ravaged a month before by wildfires. The Associated Press described a "torrent of mud, trees and boulders that

flowed down a fire-scarred mountain and slammed" into Montecito in Santa Barbara County.

First responders waded through waste-high mud to rescue people. Law enforcement officials said the area "looked like a World War I battlefield."

"Roy Rohter was a man of strong faith and a great friend of Catholic education," said Michael F. McLean, president of Thomas Aquinas College. The Rohters have been longtime benefactors of the college in Santa Paula, California. Their daughter, Andrea Rohter Krautmann, and her husband, Jay, are 2000 graduates of the school. The headmaster of the Ventura school also is an alumnus.

As "founder and benefactor of classical Catholic schools," Rohter played "a pivotal role in the lives of countless young Catholic students -- students who came to a deeper knowledge and love of Christ because of his vision, commitment, and generosity," added McLean in his statement, posted on the college's website.

The college community will greatly miss Roy's "boundless energy and enthusiasm," he added.

H A P P E N I N G S

JANUARY

18, 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

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

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. "Mass and a Meal" monthly event. Bring side dishes, desserts, or beverages. 614-224-9522

20, 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.

Alcohol Server Training Program at Bryce Eck Center

10 a.m., Bryce Eck Center, St. Andrew Church, 3880 Reed Road, Columbus. Ohio Investigative Unit's Alcohol Server Knowledge training program, providing

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 Doug Bean 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 tpuet@columbuscatholic.org

information to parish staff and volunteers about laws and guidelines for serving alcohol at church events. 614-224-2251

21, SUNDAY

St. Christopher Adult Religious Education

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

Frassati Society Mass, Brunch

10:30 a.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Columbus St. Patrick Church Frassati Society for young adults attends Mass, followed by brunch at Jimmy John's, 325 E. Long St. 614-224-9522

Blessing of St. Gerard Majella at Holy Family

After 11 a.m. Mass, Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Blessing of St. Gerard Majella, patron of expectant mothers, for all women who are pregnant or wish to become pregnant. 614-221-1890

Angelic Warfare Confraternity at Columbus St. Patrick

Following noon Mass, St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Monthly meeting of Angelic Warfare Confraternity, with talk on chastity-related issues followed by Holy Hour. 614-224-9522

Kateri Prayer Circle at St. Mark

1 p.m., Aranda Center, St. Mark Church, 324 Gay St., Lancaster. Kateri Prayer Circle meeting to honor St. Kateri Tekakwitha and promote Native Catholic spirituality.

St. Padre Pio Secular Franciscans

1:30 to 5 p.m., St. John the Baptist Church, 720 Hamlet St., Columbus. Fellowship and ongoing formation followed by adoration and prayer, Liturgy of the Hours, and initial formation with visitors. 614-282-4676

St. Catherine of Bologna Secular Franciscans

2 to 4:30 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Church, 386 Buttles Ave., Columbus. Meet in church for prayer, followed by general meeting, ongoing formation, and fellowship. Visitors welcome. 614-895-7792

Polish Mass at Holy Family

2 p.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Monthly Mass in Polish. 614-221-4323

Taize Evening Prayer at Corpus Christi

4 to 5 p.m., Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. Evening Prayer in the style and spirit of the Taize monastic community, with song, silence, and reflection. 614-512-3731

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

22, MONDAY

Respect Life Mass and Rally for Life

10:30 a.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Bishop Frederick Campbell celebrates Mass in observance of the day of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through abortion and of prayer for full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life, followed at noon by the annual Rally for Life in the Statehouse atrium, sponsored by Greater Columbus Right to Life, to express support for pro-life activities on the anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision.

Bethesda Post-Abortion Healing Ministry

6:30 p.m., support group meeting, 2744 Dover Road, Co-

lumbus (Christ the King convent, first building west of the church). 614-718-0277, 614-309-2651, 614-309-0157

Our Lady of Peace Men's Bible Study

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

Cols. Immaculate Conception Program on Addiction

7 p.m., Marian Hall, Immaculate Conception Church, 414 E. North Broadway, Columbus. "The Modern Face of Addiction," a program featuring Franklin County Sheriff's DARE Deputy Cora Day and "Hidden in Plain Sight," a display of how some young people avoid detection by their parents of substance abuse. 614-267-9241

23, TUESDAY

Ohio Dominican Adult Education Information Session

6 to 7 p.m., Room 274, Bishop Griffin Center, Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Information session for university's adult education program. 614-251-7400

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.

24, WEDNESDAY

Mass With Bishop Campbell at DeSales

9:45 a.m., St. Francis DeSales High School, 4212 Karl Road, Columbus. Bishop Frederick Campbell celebrates Mass for the Feast of St. Francis de Sales, patron saint of the school and the Diocese of Columbus. 614-267-7808

Tyler's Light Presentation at St. Andrew

7 p.m., Nugent Hall, St. Andrew Church, 1899 McCoy Road, Columbus. Presentation by Tyler's Light, which is dedicated to helping young people choose a drug-free life and to aid family members and friends of people battling addiction. 614-451-4290

25, THURSDAY

Aquinas Lecture at Ohio Dominican

11 a.m., Matesich Theater, Erskine Hall, Ohio Dominican University, 1215 Sunbury Road, Columbus. University's annual Aquinas Lecture, part of its "The Common Good" series, with Father Brian Davies, OP, Fordham University philosophy professor. Subject: "The Common Good According to Aquinas: God on Good and Evil." 614-251-4453

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.

Frassati Society Meeting at St. Patrick

7 p.m., Aquinas Hall, St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Parish's Frassati Society for young adults meets for monthly "Christ in the City" program. 614-224-9522

26, FRIDAY

Downtown Columbus Serra Club Meeting

Noon, St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St., Columbus. Downtown Columbus Serra Club meeting. Speaker: Father Paul Noble, diocesan vocations director. 614-486-4293

'Convergence' at ODU Wehrle Gallery

5 to 7 p.m., Wehrle Art Gallery, Ohio Dominican University, 1215 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Opening reception for "Convergence," new work by Columbus artists Char Norman and Anita Dawson. Exhibit continues through March 31. Gallery hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

'Defender of Life' Talk at St. Peter

7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. "St. Joseph, Defender of Life" talk by Benjamin Hart-

ings, author of "A Return to the Altar -- A Sacred Journey Through Grief and Joy," who will share the experience of he and his wife, Lynn, in deciding to carry their child full term despite a fatal diagnosis while still in the womb.

26-27, FRIDAY-SATURDAY

Building a Culture of Life Conference

8 a.m. to 5 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Building a Culture of Life conference featuring talks by more than 20 pro-life leaders and educators. Tickets \$50 both days, \$35 one day. Students \$15 per day; no charge for clergy and Religious. Cost includes continental breakfast and lunch. 614-241-2540

Newark Catholic Presents 'Hello, Dolly!'

7:30 p.m., Midland Theater, 36 N. Park Place, Newark. Newark Catholic High School's drama department presents the musical "Hello, Dolly!" Tickets \$15. 740-344-3594

27, 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.

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

St. Charles Scholarship Test

9 a.m. and 1 p.m., St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St., Columbus. School's annual scholarship test for prospective students, open to all eighth-grade boys enrolled in public or private schools in Franklin and surrounding counties. Advance registration required. 614-252-6714

Parish Trivia Night at Columbus St. Patrick

7 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Parish trivia night, giving participants a chance to test their knowledge of Columbus' second-oldest parish. Program includes raffle, silent auction. Tickets \$5 advance, \$10 at door; additional charge for food. 614-224-9522

28, SUNDAY

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

Open House at St. Mary Magdalene School

Noon to 2 p.m., St. Mary Magdalene School, 2940 Parkside Road, Columbus. Open house for new students in preschool through eighth grade, including information regarding the Ohio EdChoice scholarship program. 614-279-9935

Open House at Our Lady of Bethlehem School

1 to 3 p.m., Our Lady of Bethlehem School and Childcare, 4567 Olentangy River Road, Columbus. Open house for parents of prospective students at school which serves students from six months old to kindergarten. 614-459-8285

St. Catherine of Bologna Secular Franciscans

2 to 4:30 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Church, 386 Buttles Ave., Columbus. Meet in church for prayer, followed by general meeting, ongoing formation, and fellowship. Visitors welcome. 614-895-7792

Scout Day with the Bishop

3 p.m. Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, New Albany. Annual Scout Day with the Bishop program sponsored by diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting, with Bishop Frederick Campbell honoring diocesan Scouts who have received religious awards.



BOOK REVIEW

Marian Devotion

Catholic News Agency

For Catholics, it's fairly par for the course to be questioned by non-Catholics about the Blessed Virgin Mary at some point.

And that's probably because the Catholic Church has a lot to say about her. Church teaching holds that Mary was conceived without sin, that she maintains perpetual virginity, that she conceived by the Holy Spirit, and that she was assumed into heaven, among many other things.

A recent book, the *Manual for Marian Devotion*, provides the context and answers for all kinds of questions about Marian doctrine, as well as prayers and stories for growth in personal devotion.

The *Manual* was produced last year by TAN Books in conjunction with the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist, and so has a touch of Dominican flavor throughout. (*The Sisters teach at Worthington St. Michael School-ed.*)

"They wanted it to reflect the charism and the spirituality of our community to a certain extent, so it was really great to work with them," said Sister Albert Marie, OP, who, along with another Dominican sister, helped write the book.

The manual is divided into two sections. The first part provides explanations of Marian teachings and doctrines, while the second includes various Marian prayers and stories of Marian miracles for personal devotion.

"It's not an aggressive apologetics, it's just: this is what the church teaches, this is why it's beautiful, this is how it can touch your life," Sister Albert Marie told CNA.

It also differs from a Marian consecration book, such as the one by St. Louis de Monfort, in that it provides context and information about Mary rather than

focusing on one particular path of devotion, Sister Albert Marie said.

"This might be coming out of my own personal prayer life and spirituality, but before I do something - whether it's a particular prayer or devotion - I want to know the why and the big picture before I'm taken by the more particular details.

"I think there's a lot of people in the Catholic Church who are growing up realizing that the Catholic Church is beautiful, or who are interested in Mary, but need a little more of that intellectual formation to see where exactly does she fit, or how clearly do we think about her," which is where the manual can be particularly helpful, she added.

One of the biggest roadblocks to Marian devotion for some people is that they seem to get caught up in the otherness and special graces granted to Mary, which can make her seem distant or inaccessible, Sister Albert Marie said.

But the faithful shouldn't be intimidated by Mary. Sister Albert Marie said Mary received special graces necessary for her particular role, but her privileges do not mean that she "shines down on us" as something separate and different forever. Rather, she is as someone who paved the way to Christ and to Heaven.

Mary also provides women with a unique example of Christian holiness, Sister Albert Marie said.

"The way that a mother models to her children what it means to be an adult woman, there's a way that Mary's privilege and holiness ... gives us an image of Christian holiness to move towards," she said.

The manual was originally released last year, during the 100th anniversary year of the Marian apparitions at Fatima, Portugal, in which Mary appeared to three children for six months in 1917. She brought messages about the importance of prayer and making

reparation for sin, as well as messages about the world wars and the future of the Church. During the sixth and final apparition, on Oct. 13, the sun appeared to miraculously dance in the sky.

Sister Albert Marie described the anniversary as a special time in which the whole Church turns with special and renewed devotion to Mary,

But her favorite Marian miracle described in the manual is much less dramatic than the one at Fatima or some of the other well-known Marian miracles.

It's called "She Helps the Friars Preach" and recalls a simple story of a Dominican friar who decided at the last minute to ditch his prepared sermon in favor of one that was divinely inspired.

A Cistercian monk who witnessed the small miracle said he could see Mary next to the friar, holding up a book. The Cistercian said the preacher seemed "to speak better and with greater profit to souls, and farm more fervently than he had done for a long time."

It's a simple story, but close to Sister

Albert Marie's heart in her roles both as a Dominican and as a teacher, she said.

"That's one story that will never be brought for anyone's canonization, nothing will be done with it, it's just the testimony of one person," she said. "But it's an example of that very simple presence and help of Mary in daily life."

Sister Albert Marie also said that she hopes the different stories of Marian miracles and the different quotes about Mary from various saints will help readers foster their own unique relationship with their Mother.

"For everyone who reads the manual or prays to Our Lady, there's going to be a particular feel to that relationship, and it's going to be unique because it is a personal relationship between them and with her," she said.

The manual is available through TAN Books on its website at: <https://www.tanbooks.com/index.php/manual-for-marian-devotion.html>. It is the second in a series of devotional books being produced by the publisher.



An advertisement for The Catholic Foundation's Scholarship Application Period. It features a photograph of five students in school uniforms sitting on a ledge and reading books. Below the photo is a blue banner with white text: "THE CATHOLIC FOUNDATION'S SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PERIOD OPENS JANUARY 29 AND CLOSSES MARCH 9!". Underneath the banner, it says "FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO APPLY, VISIT WWW.CATHOLIC-FOUNDATION.ORG/SCHOLARSHIPS". At the bottom, there are logos for The Catholic Foundation and contact information: "257 East Broad Street | Columbus, OH 43215 | 614-443-8893 | www.catholic-foundation.org".

Hello, Dolly!

The Newark Catholic High School drama department will present *Hello, Dolly!* at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Jan. 26 and 27 at the Midland Theater, 36 N. Park Place, Newark.

Hello, Dolly! is a 1964 musical with lyrics and music by Jerry Herman. It follows the story of Dolly Gallagher Levi, a strong-willed matchmaker, as she travels to Yonkers, New York, in the late 1800s or early 1900s to find a match for the miserly “well-known unmarried half-a-millionaire” Horace Vandergelder. In doing so, she convinces his niece, his niece’s intended husband, and Horace’s two clerks to travel to New York City.

Tickets are \$15 and will be available at the school office or at the door on the evenings of the show. Children age five and younger are free.



For more information, call the school at (740) 344-3594.



Ohio Trombone Quartet Concert

The Ohio Trombone Quartet (OTQ) will present a concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 11 at Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 1033 W. 5th St. The program will include works by Christopher Brubeck, George Philipp Telemann, Paul Hindemith, Alfred Hornoff, Ludwig van Beethoven, Tony Zilincik, and Antonio Carlos Jobim.

The OTQ is a chamber ensemble consisting of professional musicians from central Ohio. Lucas Borges is professor of trombone at Ohio University, Joe Brown teaches the History of Rock and other music classes at OU, Lucas Kaspar is trombone instructor at Muskingum University and

is a teaching associate at The Ohio State University, and Tony Weikel is low brass instructor at Otterbein University and second trombone in the Springfield Symphony. All members also are very active freelance performers in Ohio and beyond.

The mission of OTQ is to promote chamber music at the highest level through performance and education. The group also is very interested in promoting new music, premiering Michael Johnson’s *Anacoluthon* on its recital tour in 2016. It is preparing for a similar tour in February, which will include a performance at the Ohio Music Educators Association conference on Friday, Feb. 9.

AM 820

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Martin Luther King Celebration ~ 2018



The Rev. Joel L. King Jr. gives the keynote address at the annual celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day at Columbus Holy Rosary-St. John Church. The featured soloist with the choir was Shari Williams. CT photos by Ken Snow

The Rev. Joel L. King Jr. of Gahanna was the guest preacher at the annual service in memory of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. held Monday, Jan. 15 at Columbus Holy Rosary-St. John Church.

King was ordained by his father, the late Rev. Joel L. King Sr., who is the brother of the late Rev. Martin Luther King Sr., the father of the famed civil rights leader. That makes him a first cousin of Martin Luther King Jr. Joel King has served in ministry for 34



years in Baptist churches in Ohio, including Union Grove Baptist Church in Columbus.

The featured soloist was Shari Williams, who joined the choir for "Walk in the Light."

Joel King encouraged those in attendance to carry on the legacy of his uncle. "There's a lot of work yet to be done all around the world, but we can start, today, right here, right now," he said. "Dr. King would say 'Stand up for righteousness. Stand up for what is right in the community.'

"We cannot go backwards. We have come too far as a nation, as a world."

King said the way to change hearts, encourage peace, and heal racial division is through Jesus Christ's death and resurrection.

Dr. King's expression "'Love is the only force capable of transforming the enemy into a friend' still rings true today," the preacher said. "But the application of this love has to come from our hearts.

"Dr. King believed that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the power to change bigotry, hate, and injustice into peaceful harmony between all of God's creatures. He realized that hate makes a man bitter, but love makes a bitter man better. Hate makes a man angry, but love makes a healed man happy.

Hate makes a man distrustful, but love turns a sinner into a saint. Hate makes a man self-serving, but love turns an egoistic man into a selfless servant of the

Lord," Joel King said.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the civil right activist's death from an assassin's bullet in 1968.

"Dr. King was pursued and persecuted. He was arrested 30 times. He was scorned and scandalized, but his reward was in the kingdom of heaven," Joel King pointed out in his sermon. "Because he was waiting for 'Thy Kingdom to come.'

"We have to lay aside those things that so easily beset us and look unto Jesus, who is the author and finisher of our faith. That's what Dr. King was trying to tell us: 'I looked over and I saw the Promised Land.' We'll get there one day, but we've got to get all that strife and all that hate out of our hearts as we go about our Father's business," the preacher concluded.

