FIVE MEN ORDAINED AS DEACONS
The Editor’s Notebook

The Next Generation of Catholics

By David Garick, Editor

You have, no doubt, heard it said that “Christianity is just one generation away from extinction.” It is a sobering thought, and it is very true. We must never forget that our faith is based on each person’s personal acceptance of the grace of God and his or her commitment to Christ. Two thousand years of Catholic history, the writing of all the great Church Fathers, the inspired artworks and magnificent cathedrals fade into nothingness if each of us fails in our duty to pass the faith along to the next generation of believers.

That’s a tall order in this day and age. Society is becoming increasingly more secular. Modern culture tells us that faith is unfashionable. It is “uncool” to put your religion on display. That is now supposed to be a private matter, not something you let other people see. To live according to the tenets of faith could interfere with other people doing whatever they want to do. After all, who is to say that your way is the right way? Modern pluralism teaches us that all ideas are equal, and so there is not absolute right or wrong. The handwriting is on the wall. Society wants to relegate our faith to the dustbin of history – a history that, of course, never will be taught in public schools.

These are indeed ominous times. Of course, the Church has faced persecution before and has prevailed, but not without great effort and sacrifice. The challenge we face today is the same one that has faced every generation of Catholics. We must make certain that our children understand the faith and are prepared to make their own commitment to Christ.

I often hear people say “We’re not pushing our children into any church. We want them to decide for themselves when they are older.” That is total rubbish! What those people really are saying is “I don’t want to stand up against what is fashionable. I don’t feel able to defend the faith and explain to my children why they should follow Christ.” This cowardice is at the root of most of the social problems facing our nation and our world today.

Fortunately, we have the tools to help parents make the right decisions about preparing their children for lives of faith. Those tools are our parishes and schools. As a community, we can pull together our resources for this critical effort. Education and catechesis is everyone’s responsibility.

During this time of year, Bishop Campbell is keeping a very busy schedule, traveling all around the diocese to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to our young people. This is a duty I know our bishop enjoys very much. This is the evidence that the faith is being passed on to the next generation. This, coupled with the recent initiation of adult converts at the Easter Vigil, shows that we are following the command of Jesus, “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.”

Correction - A story in the May 7 Catholic Times listed an incorrect date for the next bimonthly healing Mass at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral. The correct date is Monday, May 15.

Church leaders view religious freedom order as positive step

By Carol Zimmermann, Catholic News Service

Many religious leaders viewed President Donald Trump’s executive order on religious freedom, which he signed in a White House Rose Garden ceremony on May 4, as a step in the right direction.

In a ceremony for the National Day of Prayer before signing the executive order, Trump told the assembled religious leaders, “We’re taking big steps to protect religious liberty” and assured them the government “won’t stand for religious discrimination.”

Three religious leaders, including Cardinal Donald Wuerl, archbishop of Washington, offered prayers during the ceremony.

Just before the event, Cardinal Wuerl and Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, met with Trump about the order.

In an interview with Catholic News Service at Reagan National Airport just after the White House ceremony, Cardinal DiNardo said the meeting with the president was brief, but productive.

Earlier, he said the executive order “begins the process of alleviating the serious burden of the HHS mandate,” referring to the mandate issued by the federal Department of Health and Human Services requiring most religious employers to provide coverage of artificial birth control for their employees, even if they morally oppose it.

Cardinal DiNardo also stressed that the U.S. bishops will “have to review the details of any regulatory proposals.”

The text of the order, “Promoting Free Speech and Religious Liberty,” states that cabinet offices “shall consider issuing amended regulations, consistent with applicable law, to address conscience-based objections to the preventive-care mandate.”

During the White House ceremony, Trump told members of the Little Sisters of the Poor in the crowd that “Your long ordeal will soon be over.” The sisters are one of the groups which have challenged the federal contraceptive mandate all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Mother Lorraine Marie Maguire, superior of the Little Sisters’ Baltimore province, said the sisters are “grateful for the president’s order and look forward to the agencies giving us an exemption so that we can continue caring for the elderly poor and dying” without fear of government punishment.

Another aspect of the order is a weakening of what Trump called the “unfair” Johnson Amendment during the May 4 event.

The 1954 amendment bans churches and nonprofit organizations of all types from participating in partisan political activity at the risk of losing their tax-exempt status.

Trump told the religious leaders that the order’s attempt See FREEDOM, Page 7
BY TIM PUET, Catholic Times Reporter

A dream that started with a Mexican immigrant and her daughter distributing food from the back of their minivan has come to fruition with the opening of the relocated, expanded Our Lady of Guadalupe Center on Columbus’ west side.

The center, operated by Catholic Social Services (CSS) at 441 Industry Drive, just off Valleyview Drive, is just a few steps from its former location in the same industrial park, but its new location has 3,500 square feet of space for a pantry, offices, and meeting rooms of various sizes – nearly three times the space available at its previous site.

The additional room expands the pantry and will allow the center to offer more services to the primarily Hispanic community it serves and to other west side residents. These include job mentoring, classes in English as a Second Language and in Spanish for English-speakers who wish to know that language better, and expanded nutrition programs and preventive health screenings.

There also are plans to start a business incubator at the site. In addition, the center expects to provide case management and increased access to legal services for its clients. It works in partnership with many businesses and community agencies, including American Electric Power, The Ohio State University’s nutrition sciences department, OhioHealth, and the James Cancer Hospital.

“People from the Hispanic community have been coming to the Our Lady of Guadalupe Center at its various locations since 1999, when CSS founded it as a food pantry. As it has expanded over the years, it has taken on more functions. With the move to this location, it’s now a full community center – to my knowledge, the first Hispanic-focused community center in Columbus,” said center director Ramona Reyes.

Operations at the center’s new site began on April 25. A dedication ceremony attended by Columbus Mayor Andrew Ginther, Franklin County Commissioner Marilyn Brown, and other local officials took place on May 4.

The program included the naming of the pantry for Carolina Santos, who began providing food in the mid-1990s from the back of her minivan as a way of giving Hispanics in the Columbus area the same help she and her Mexican immigrant family received years earlier in southern California after they had become homeless.

Her efforts and those of her daughter, Alma, who is the Guadalupe center’s coordinator, led to creation of the center as part of CSS. Carolina Santos eventually returned to Mexico to continue her work and stayed there for several years before coming back to Columbus to be with her daughter.

“Seeing this space dedicated is a dream come true,” Alma Santos said. “It’s more than I thought we’d ever be able to have. It makes me feel beyond blessed because it allows us so much opportunity for growth.”

Santos said CSS director Rachel Lustig’s efforts in obtaining funding played a major effort in enabling the center to move to its new site. “Rachel came here four years ago (after 10 years in Washington with Catholic Charities USA) and we showed her this space, which was available at the time. We wanted it and knew what we could do with it. But it needed more funding. “Someone else took the space, but it became available again,” Santos said. “Rachel learned of this, decided a second chance at obtaining it was too good to turn down, and said ‘Let’s make it happen.’” CSS obtained a $175,000 grant last year from The Columbus Foundation and the Osteopathic Heritage Foundation to allow the center to relocate. A $21,000 grant last year from The Catholic Foundation helped cover program costs for the center.

“The Our Lady of Guadalupe Center provides a springboard for the west side, bringing opportunities for economic security and for strengthening families, the community, and the neighborhood. It all began as Catalina and Alma’s dream, and that dream has caught fire. “It’s important that the center’s name begins with ‘Our,’” Lustig said. “All of us at

Legal profession gathers for the Red Mass

Judges, legislators, and members of the legal profession gathered at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral for the annual Red Mass on Wednesday, May 3.

This special Mass dates back centuries in Europe. It has been observed in the Diocese of Columbus since 1985, under the leadership of the St. Thomas More Society.

In his homily, Bishop Frederick Campbell said, “One often hears about the separation of church and state. Such a phrase can suggest a necessarily contentious relationship between the two, which, indeed, has been the case in some historic periods. I prefer to speak of the distinction between church and state, as well as the distinction between the state and society. This way of speaking can suggest a carefully balanced and mutually beneficial relationship: both realities striving to produce what St. Augustine defined as ‘the tranquility of order,’ important for the conversion of the human community. The Christian power is in the lead of St. Peter and the example of St. Thomas More, who famously said, ‘I am the king’s good servant, but God’s first.’ Honor civil authority—those magistrates given to us for good order—but remember, it is better to obey God rather than men.”

See CENTER, Page 16
Faith in Action  
By Erin Cordle

Fraught With Opportunities

Now that we are well on our way to Pentecost, it seems like a good time to reflect on our Lenten journeys to the resurrection. My Lent was “fraught with opportunities.” What made this Lent different, however, was that I was able to see these “opportunities” as blessings, not burdens. My biggest opportunity was when I had to have my entire thyroid removed. My part was pretty easy – all I had to do was show up! God bless skilled surgeons and nurses.

What I didn’t understand was how topsy-turvy my world would become. In the process of learning to cope, I started thinking about the millions of people whose lives have become topsy-turvy through no fault of their own, the countless masses whose lives will not come back to order with a small pill every morning.

Catholic Relief Services represents U.S. Catholics as we live our faith in solidarity with our brothers and sisters by assisting the poor and vulnerable overseas. They are motivated by the Gospel of Jesus Christ to cherish, preserve, and uphold the sacredness and dignity of all human life, foster charity and justice, and embody Catholic social and moral teachings through their actions. I know that many of us have concerns about refugees coming here. I get that. I understand. I also know that many of us have strong misconceptions about who refugees are, especially Syrian refugees. While CRS assists refugees overseas, it is not involved in resettling them in the United States. That’s where we need to help.

Put yourself in the shoes of a refugee. You’ve gone through two years of vetting, have been approved, and are finally ready to start a new life where you can raise your children in safety. Many refugees are fleeing violence and terrorism. In Syria, people are left with almost no possessions because bombs destroyed their homes, shops, and hospitals. It’s ironic that at the same time refugees are trying to flee terrorism in their lives and homelands, we confuse those same refugees with being terrorists themselves. Remember, in 2016, nearly three-fourths of the Syrian refugees who came into the United States were women and children, and 48 percent are younger than 14 (according to the State Department’s refugee processing center).

The Catholic Church acknowledges that a government has an obligation to protect its people. But that must be balanced with our moral obligation to help others in need. Preventing vulnerable people like refugees from entering the United States is not the answer. Desperate people are risking their lives to flee violence and persecution. They have no other choice. The wars are still going on, and many cities and towns are in ruins. No one knows when the violence will stop and when those cities will be rebuilt. It could take decades. That’s why we need long-term solutions to the refugee crisis. Those solutions need to include resettlement.

This can’t be about politics. It’s about being the good neighbors Jesus calls us to be. Proverbs 31:8-9 tells us to speak strongly for those who cannot speak for themselves. So send an email to President Trump at president@whitehouse.gov. Call your senator’s office to voice your concerns (Sen. Rob Portman at (614) 469-6774; Sen. Sherrod Brown at (614) 469-2083). Meet with your congressional representative.

Through CRS, we assist refugees around the world. It would be inconsistent to not stand up and speak for them here. We wouldn’t be good neighbors if we remained silent when their lives are in topsy-turvy, dangerous situations. Compassion is a Gospel opportunity that is never out of style.

Erin Cordle is associate director of the diocesan Office for Social Concerns.
DIOCESAN SCOUT CAMPOREE

All Catholic boys and girls in the Diocese of Columbus are invited to learn more about their faith and have fun through themed religious and recreational activities by taking part in the annual diocesan Catholic Scout Camporee.

The event is sponsored by the diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting and is for Scouts and non-Scouts alike. It will take place from Friday, May 19, to Sunday, May 21, at historic St. Joseph Church on State Route 383 in Somerset, “the cradle of the Catholic faith in Ohio,” where the state’s first Catholic church was founded in 1818. The camporee will be on the grounds of the current church, which was built in 1839.

There will be separate programs for boys and girls and accompanying adults in grades six to 12 and grades one to five. The program for the older youths will last from 7:30 p.m. May 19 (with registration beginning at 6:30) to 10 a.m. May 21. The younger group’s events will be from 9:30 a.m. (registration beginning at 9) to the conclusion of 4 p.m. Mass on Saturday, May 20. The Mass, for all groups, will fulfill the Sunday obligation.

“Saints, Angels, and Heroes” is the theme for this year’s camporee. All participants will be in groups with others of similar age. Food, music, discussions, campfires, craft sessions, and campwide games, led by youth staff, all will be part of the weekend activities, along with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation. In addition, the weekend qualifies for the retreat requirement for the Ad Altare Dei medal.

A lay apostolate formation program will be available for adults. This program helps adults to be more comfortable with and better trust each other. Through guided reflection and active participation, adults discern how they are called by Christ and his church to leadership, holiness, conversion, and worship. The process helps participants recognize the prompting of the Holy Spirit within a small community of faith.

The fee is $50 for older youths and accompanying adults and $20 for the younger group, and includes a patch, meals, activities and crafts, and a camp cup. All participants will need to bring a water bottle, tent, and sleeping gear. Dining utensils will be supplied.

For more details, go to www.cde-education.org/oym/scouts.htm. Information also is available from Kevin Miller at (614) 263-7832.

St. Andrew career day

Columbus St. Andrew School organized a career day for students to learn about options for their future. About 15 volunteers presented information on the fields in which they work. They included physical therapists, engineers, scientists, lawyers, pilots, small-business owners, firefighters, fashion designers, landscapers, and real-estate agents. Pictured is parent Travis Butz, a bridge design engineer, explaining the engineering process to students David Butz (left) and A.J. Liss. Photo courtesy St. Andrew School

St. Matthias balloon race cars

Fifth-grade students at Columbus St. Matthias School created balloon-powered race cars while learning about Newton’s three laws of motion. Pictured are the two-person teams of students whose cars traveled the farthest. The winning car covered 11.9 meters, breaking the school record. Photo courtesy St. Matthias School

Part-time Organist and Music Director

Serve as Principal Organist and Choir Director adhering to the Liturgical Guidelines of the Diocese of Columbus and of the Parish to provide musical accompaniment for all liturgical and para liturgical ceremonies, including, but not limited to parish weekend liturgies, weddings, funerals, holy days, penance services, evening prayer, Confirmation, First Communion and to cooperate in providing occasional and reasonable liturgical music at other times.

The candidate should possess proven administrative skills including interpersonal relations, conflict resolution, management and supervision, visioning and planning, budget preparation and collaborative minister.

Masters Degree or equivalent is preferred with a minimum of 3 years parish or similar music experience. Compliance with BCI&I background checks and completion of Protecting God’s Children program is required.

Salary commensurate with experience. Resumes should be sent to: Gregory Gloeckner • St. James the Less Catholic Church 1652 Oakland Park Avenue, Columbus, OH 43224 gregory.gloeckner@gmail.com
Reformation of Jews and Romans to resurrection of Christ

Q. I have always been puzzled by the lack of reaction to Christ’s resurrection from Jewish citizens and Roman officials.

It is well-documented that Jesus suffered and died, and his execution was authorized by Roman leaders, but even at a time of no media coverage, how could Christ’s return to life have gone unnoticed by the very officials who had clamored for and authorized his death?

And what happened to the Roman guard who was stationed at the tomb? Why did he not report such an event to his superiors? (Belleville, Illinois)

A. I am happy for this question on the resurrection, because our Christian faith stands or falls on the fact that Jesus rose from the dead. Paul says, “If Christ has not been raised, then empty is your preaching; empty, too, your faith” (1 Corinthians 15:14).

The rapid spread of Christianity in the first century was fueled by the accounts of more than 500 witnesses to whom Jesus appeared in the 40 days following the resurrection. Writing 25 years later, Paul says that most of these 500 “are still living” (1 Corinthians 15:6) — in effect, challenging deniers, “If you don’t believe me, talk to them.”

The pyramids of Egypt, Westminster Abbey, Arlington National Cemetery are famous as the burial sites of those renowned by history. The tomb of Jesus, instead, is empty, and Christ’s epitaph is not carved in stone, but spoken by the angel who greeted the women at the tomb: “He is not here. ... he has been raised” (Luke 24:6).

And yet, for me, the strongest proof of the resurrection comes not from an empty tomb, but from the living witness of Christ’s first followers.

Of the 12 Apostles, only John died of natural causes. The others — so convinced were they that they had seen Jesus after the resurrection, spoken with him in the upper room, eaten with him on the shore in Galilee — were willing to die by violence for the truth of that claim: James, son of Alphaeus, by stoning; Peter, hung on a cross upside down.

That is a pretty high price to pay if you’ve made up the story to start with.

Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at askfatherdoyle@gmail.com and 30 Columbia Circle Drive, Albany NY 12203.
THE EVERYDAY CATHOLIC
By Rick Jeric

Mothers of Our Priests
Here comes another Mother’s Day this Sunday. I do not think any of us need to be reminded to take good care of our moms this weekend. And that means something unique and different for each of us. It can be a special prayer for a mom who is already home with Our Lord in Heaven. It can be more prayer, a special hug, and simply our presence for a mom who has deteriorated mentally and may not even be sure of who we are or remember that we were there. It can be a special phone call or Skype with a mom who is far away. It can be a good part of the day spent with a mom who is nearby and deserves our love and attention on her special day and every day. And always a Hail Mary, at least, for our Heavenly Mother, Mary.

I feel sorry for our original mom, Eve. She had it all, even a great guy in Adam. Not much to worry about in the Garden of Eden. Then the lousy and cunning serpent tricked her and it all came undone. Not only does she not have a belly button, but no mom herself. No one to help her with all the traditional things a typical household needs, even advice on how to raise Cain and Abel. And then one of them goes and murders the other. Sin. Fortunately for us, there was Mary, the new Eve. She said “Yes.” From that moment on, we were incredibly blessed with moms who would provide us with shepherds and leaders – our priests. Without paying attention to definitions, we began the tradition with moms who would provide us with shepherds and leaders – our priests. Without paying attention to definitions, we began the tradition with moms who would provide us with shepherds and leaders – our priests. Without paying attention to definitions, we began the tradition with moms who would provide us with shepherds and leaders – our priests. Without paying attention to definitions, we began the tradition with moms who would provide us with shepherds and leaders – our priests.

Regarding religious liberty, the order is not very specific.
It states, “In order to guide all agencies in complying with relevant federal law, the attorney general shall, as appropriate, issue guidance interpreting religious liberty protections in federal law.”

Cardinal DiNardo stressed that in recent years, “people of faith have experienced pressing restrictions on religious freedom from both the federal government and state governments that receive federal funding.”

He noted that church agencies have experienced such a restriction in adoption, education, health care, and other social services, where he said “widely held moral and religious beliefs, especially regarding the protection of human life as well as preserving marriage and family, have been maligned in recent years as bigotry or hostility.”

“But disagreement on moral and religious issues is not discrimination; instead, it is the inevitable and desirable fruit of a free, civil society marked by genuine religious diversity,” he added.

Cardinal DiNardo told CNS that the executive order emphasizes that there should “not be an overly intrusive federal government” involved when people or groups are exercising their faith. He also said the president seems to be putting some religious liberty issues directly in the hands of federal departments and the attorney general, which he described as “an important dimension” and a “good way to have this unpacked.”

The White House did not release the full text of the order before its signing.
A draft of an earlier version of the order, which included stronger language, was leaked and published on Feb. 1 in The Nation magazine.

Regarding the new order, Cardinal DiNardo said the bishops will “continue to advocate for permanent relief from Congress on issues of critical importance to people of faith,” noting that religious freedom is “a fundamental right that should be upheld by all branches of government and not subject to political whims.”

Richard Garnett, professor of law at the University of Notre Dame, said in an email to Catholic News Service that the order probably will be viewed as a commitment from the administration that it wants to protect religious liberty. “In terms of specifics, however, the order does very little and does not address a number of pressing and important questions,” he wrote.

Dominican Sister Donna Markham, president and chief executive officer of Catholic Charities USA, also welcomed the order and said the organization “looks forward to reviewing the details” of it, with the hope that applying it will “allow Catholic Charities agencies to continue to serve all their clients in accordance with their inherent dignity, while at the same time preserving the freedom of these agencies to serve in conformity with our beliefs.”

ODU to host adult and continuing education information session
Ohio Dominican University will host an adult and continuing education information session from 6 to 7 p.m. Wednesday in the Bishop James A. Griffin Student Center on ODU’s campus at 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus.

To register for the session, visit www.ohiodominican.edu/InfoSession.
During this free event, attendees will learn about ODU’s range of high-demand degrees and certificates that are available on campus and online. The university offers programs in various fields, including business, insurance and risk management and supply chain management.

For more information, contact adult@ohiodominican.edu or (614) 251-7400.

Explore all of ODU’s degree and certificate offerings at www.ohiodominican.edu/adult.
Bishop Ready summer sports camps

Columbus Bishop Ready High School’s annual summer sports camps are geared for students who will be entering grades three through nine in the fall. Camps at the school, 707 Salisbury Road, are conducted by Ready coaches and graduates who have excelled in a particular sport.

This year’s camps cover baseball, boys soccer, football, softball, and volleyball and are scheduled for June and July.

More information and registration form are available on the Ready website, www.brhs.org, under “Quick Clicks/Summer Camps” or by calling athletic director Steven McQuade at (614) 276-5263, extension 211.

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Read the Bible!
Rain: An icon of grace

Rain pelted the windows as I fell asleep one Friday night this spring. Thunder rumbled in the distance, occasionally exploding through the thick sky, rattling the window beside my bed. I’ve always loved thunderstorms, especially at night when I have nothing else to do but listen and watch for lightning flashes that brighten the darkness for a moment or two.

When I awoke late the following morning, rain was still falling and heavy clouds shuttered the sky, making the house dark enough that I lit a candle for prayer time. Raindrops became my centering “word” as I tried to quiet my mind and simply sit with God. That’s never easy. Managing a minute or two out of twenty without thoughts crashing around in my head is a success. I trust the Holy One appreciates the effort.

But that Saturday morning, rain made a difference. After a while, it became an icon of Grace, falling steadily on the world, replenishing life’s gift that flows through all creation. I sat for a long time, moving in and out of quiet, trying to be present enough that some of that gift could find a place in me.

The image of Grace raining down on the world stayed with me all day. I remembered times of exhilaration, running out in a downpour, getting soaked, and tilting my head up toward the sky with my mouth open trying to taste the drops. I also remembered making mad dashes from car to door, trying to avoid rain altogether.

Saturday came and went, but as the new week moved along, the image raised questions. How eagerly do I embrace Grace given? Do I stand with arms outstretched and heart open? Do I let it drench me? Do I stop and listen, no matter where I am or what I’m doing? Do I welcome it in and let it flow out? Or am I too busy, too distracted by noise to hear?

If so, the morning rain said not to worry. Grace is always falling.

I remembered a few favorite scripture verses that speak about rain and God’s provident care:

“For just as from the heavens the rain and snow come down, And do not return there till they have watered the earth, making it fertile and fruitful. Giving seed to those who sow and bread to those who eat, so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; It shall not return to me void, but shall do my will, achieving the end for which I sent it” (Isaiah 55, 10-11).

These words bring hope that God’s Spirit, falling into my deepest places, flows through me as I go about my days, helping me do the work, knowingly or not, that I am made to do.

“Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; with the lyre make music to our God, Who covers the heavens with clouds, provides rain for the earth, makes grass sprout on the mountains …” (Psalm 147, 7-8).

Hearing Voices

Have you ever been in a situation where you find yourself listening so intently that you drown out all the exterior noises and lose attention toward what is going on around you? Do you hear a voice calling to you from some distant place? Amazing as it sounds, most of us have this precognitive ability when our olfactory reflexes are put into play.

Experiences from the past, as well as those we currently are involved in, can mesh with one another. The other day, I was listening to one of my friends as they recalled their experiences at our annual conferences. Each person had a dynamic point of view and I was astonished that may be true, there is an unexplained aspect of this which cannot be easily swayed or dispelled. I am uneasy about telling you this because, at first, I did not understand it. I could hear others speaking, but I was so wrapped up in the encounter that I drowned out all that was around me.

I remember my mother talking about wanting to take another trip to see her sister overseas and to possibly stay with her in the summer. The time of this conversation also was when we first noticed her illness, and so we desperately tried to make her wish come true. Life happens, tragedy happens, time passes, and wounds are not easily healed. I think about what the world would have looked like had she fully recovered. I am so blessed by God in having the ability to talk with her again, even if it is only in my dreams.

Perhaps this is how He wants it. In His unique way, He allows us that intimate conversation and to say “I love you.” It is remarkable what pictures our mind can take when we feel a release of emotion in the fabric of the portrait we call our life.

To those of you who have your mothers with you, cherish the time you have together, appreciate what they have to offer, and just be there for them when they need it. Hear their voices. Even when thoughts may be unspoken, they are all the more human and powerful. St. Augustine once said, “If you are silent, be silent out of love. If you speak, speak out of love.” For love is the only constant in this vast universe. Use it today, use it together, use it in peace.

May the wind be forever at your backs, may all mothers be truly blessed, 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.
Thomas Herge, Todd Lehigh, and Christopher Studells, which specializes in preparing men age 30 finish his theological studies at Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary at Westwood, Massa-

Once their studies are complete, and provided that they continue to discern that God is calling them to the priesthood, they will be ordained as priests of the Diocese of Columbus at the cath-

Five men who will begin their final year of studying for the priesthood this fall were introduced on May 26, 2018. Newly ordained Deacons Brett Garland, Thomas Herge, Todd Lehigh, and Christopher Tuttle will return this fall to the Pontifical Col-

Newly ordained Deacons Brett Garland, Thomas Herge, Todd Lehigh, and Christopher Tuttle will be called “heralds of the Gospel” and talked about their call in light of the call of St. Paul to serve God. The conversion of Paul, as described in the Acts of the Apostles, was the day’s first Scriptural reading at Mass. As is traditional at diaconal and priestly ordinations, Bishop Campbell spoke from the bishop’s chair rather than from the pulpit, because the homily was addressed specifically to the deacons as an instruction.

The bishop told the deacons that their call from God “at first, may not be distinct or very wide. It is through acts of obedience to the call that it is ex-

Deacon Garland, 26, is from Washington Court House. Deacon Garland received his bachelor of arts degree in theology at the Pontifical Catholic University of America in Washington before entering the Josephinum. In Washington, he was a reading tutor and volun-

Paul very famously would say “Rejoice al-

Deacon Herg, 26, is from Columbus Holy Name Church as a custodian and groundskeeper. In addition to his studies for the priesthood, he was a store cashier for 84 Lumber, a forklift operator for the T. Mar-

Deacon Lehigh, 28, attended Dennison Im-

Deacon Tuttle, 34, of Granville St. Edward

Deacon Shikina, 41, is from Columbus Our

Deacon Herge at Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona Church, is a 2001 graduate of Columbus St.

Deacon Lehigh at Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona Church, is a 2001 graduate of Columbus St.

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Hungry, scared South Sudanese stay in cathedral compound for protection

By Paul Jeffrey
Catholic News Service

Rita Williams slept under a tree beside St. Mary Cathedral, her three hungry children beside her. Around them, as many as 16,000 other displaced people filled the cathedral compound, hoping the church would keep them safe as their nation spirals into greater violence.

“I’ve been here two weeks, since the soldiers chased us out of our house and burned it,” she said on April 26. “We have nothing, not even salt. Our clothes are dirty, and some days, all we have to eat or drink is water. We’re waiting. I don’t know for what, but we’re afraid to go back home.”

When civil war ripped apart South Sudan’s fragile democracy in 2013, residents of this city in the nation’s northwest watched from afar, seemingly unconcerned that the politically manipulated ethnic violence would spread here. And then it did, and the victims ran for the city’s churches.

“It wasn’t safe anywhere, but people said that if they were going to be killed, they preferred to be killed in the church because this is the place that Jesus is present. They wanted to die in the church, rather than die in their homes,” said Father Germano Bernardo, a priest in Wau.

Although tensions had been building for months, intense fighting broke out last June between soldiers of the Sudan People’s Liberation Army, who are mostly members of the dominant Dinka tribe, and a mixture of local opposition groups and members of other ethnic communities. On June 23, the violence spread into the center of Wau, where two members of the cathedral choir were killed.

“They were walking home in the evening after choir practice and were attacked by six soldiers, who shot them dead,” said Father Bernardo, who at the time was vicar general of the diocese.

The next day, government soldiers started looting and burning houses belonging to the Fertit and other ethnic groups, and people rushed to the city’s churches and a nearby U.N. base, Father Bernardo told Catholic News Service.

He said that by June 25, soldiers were driving around the city, “shooting people as they ran from their houses.”

One small child, age 1, was killed as he ran for the church, said Father Bernardo.

“There was no way to get to the cemetery, so we buried 14 people within the cathedral grounds,” he said. “From then until now, insecurity has reigned. So people stay in the churches. Many of their homes have been looted, and if they leave the town, they’ll be killed.”

More than 400 people were killed and more than 120,000 displaced in the initial phase, leaving churches, aid groups, and United Nations agencies scrambling to respond. The churches got help from Catholic Relief Services and other groups that provided shelter materials, hygiene kits, cooking pots, and food. The church drilled two new wells to supplement two wells on the cathedral grounds, but that’s not enough for the displaced who make the cathedral grounds their home, so Oxfam trucks water into the site every day.

Sporadic fighting around the city has continued, with occasional incidents that push a new group of civilians out of their homes.

In January, for example, a group of government-affiliated cattle keepers attacked local farmers they believe are aligned with anti-government rebels. Thousands fled neighboring villages for the safety of Wau’s churches, including more than 5,000 who filled the grounds of an Anglican church.
something the bishop had worked all his life to prevent,” she said.

In Bishop Deng’s absence, the South Sudan Council of Churches, which includes the Catholic Church, mounted a local peace initiative. It pushed for face-to-face meetings among all parties, finally pulling together a three-day workshop of civil society leaders with government and military officials in December. Those in power made promises, which church leaders say they either did not keep or local officials were replaced by people who had no interest in honoring the commitments of their predecessors.

“The army admitted that its soldiers had done some things wrong, and they said that from then on, they wanted to be friends with the civilians. And the civilians said they were ready for a new phase,” Father Bernardo said.

“The soldiers said that in order to build trust, they would go out and clean up the town and they would come talk with the civilians in the different displacement camps. But once the workshop was over, nothing happened. The government then said it would move all the soldiers seven kilometers away and only have police in the town. But again, nothing happened up to now. If the government says something, the civilians won’t believe it.”

The Rev. Bang Akuei Nyuol, an Anglican who serves as regional director for the South Sudan Council of Churches, said government officials tried to mitigate the violence by mounting a campaign for civilians to turn in weapons. Yet the same day it convinced a group of cattle keepers to hand over their assault rifles, a large number of cattle were stolen from them. In the wake of the cattle raid, few listened to the government’s appeal to disarm.

And so the displaced wait.

“I’m a university graduate, but I’ve been sitting in this camp for almost a year,” said William George, a resident of the cathedral camp. “This morning, I didn’t eat anything. Nor did my children. If I had $100, I’d leave for Egypt or somewhere else, anywhere other than here. My house was burned and all my things taken. There’s no future here because there’s no accountability. They can kill someone and there’s no response, no judgment.”

Father Moses Peter, the diocesan emergency coordinator, said victims of the violence trust the clergy to protect them.

“Most felt when they came to the church that God was immediately going to look after them and keep them safe. And many felt that if people came to do violence, that we priests would challenge them,” he said.

“It’s true that sometimes we priests challenge people who are not acting correctly, but then people complain that we are attacking them in our homilies, or that we are against the government or siding with the rebels. There are a lot of dangerous accusations. When you tell the truth, it’s made to seem like you are doing something wrong. When people feel that the word of God that you preach is touching them and they don’t want to change, then they accuse us of all sorts of things and say we should be arrested.”

Father Peter said he has no time to worry about such threats, as he’s too busy managing the daily crises of the displaced. In late April, he was waiting for food that had been promised by the U.N. World Food Program. He worried that the little bit of food available would produce more anger than satisfaction among the cathedral’s guests.

More than 30 million people need food assistance in Yemen, South Sudan, Nigeria, and Somalia because of drought, but on April 28, the head of the World Food Program, David Beasley, said the U.N. has only enough money to help 8.4 million of them.
Fifth Sunday of Easter (Cycle A)

Words of consolation to Christians of all ages

Acts 6:1-7; 1 Peter 2:4-9; John 14:1-12

We have no idea what kind of “complaint” arose between the widows of the Hellenists and those of the Hebrews, but it must have been a dandy. The Greek word for this “complaint” has the sense of “grumbling” or “mumbling.” In a group setting, any time one group perceives it is being discriminated against in favor of another, there will be problems.

The difference between Hellenists and Hebrews is not too easy to determine. The Hellenists were those former Gentiles who became members of the Jerusalem church (small “c”). The Hebrews were those who had converted from Judaism. However, some commentators think it had to do with language and suggested the Hellenists were Jews who only spoke Greek, while living in Jerusalem. The Hebrews would have been Jews who may have spoken some Greek, but spoke mostly Aramaic (the Hebrew spoken language of the time).

The problem stemmed from the communal nature of the early church and in caring for widows and orphans. These needy people required help and the community was obliged to see to caring for them. The squabble would have been no small thing when it came to an argument about food, and it was probably a much bigger issue than Luke wanted to go into. He is more concerned about setting up a division of labor, to explain how deacons arose. “The Twelve” decided that others should see to this work while they devoted themselves to prayer and the ministry of the word (that is, to the proclaiming of the Gospel).

That they insisted on choosing “seven reputable men” should not figure into any later questions about ordination. In this case, where it was the widows who needed help, they probably chose men so as not to seem biased in any way. Inasmuch as it was “acceptable to the whole community,” it obviously worked. The issue of ordained ministry cannot be connected in any way with this passage.

Oddly enough, all seven men chosen had Greek names. Again, since “the proposal was acceptable to the whole community,” it apparently mattered little that they were all Greeks. The “priests” who joined the number of disciples would have come from the priestly families. It is a bit surprising, because the priestly class in general did not believe in resurrection, which is a hallmark of Christian faith.

The Gospel comes from the farewell speech Jesus gave to the disciples before his arrest and crucifixion. Some commentators claim that the actual discourse begins here, rather than earlier in Chapter 13. The late Father Raymond Brown, who wrote a classic two-volume work on John in the Anchor Bible series, has noted “… it has been wisely stated that the Last Discourse is best understood when it is the subject of prayerful meditation, and that scientific analysis does not really do justice to this work of genius.” He compares it to examining in minute detail an art masterpiece, which would lose its appeal under such analysis, while the masterpiece remains when looked at as a whole.

The verses of John 14:1-6 are familiar to us because they are often heard at funerals. These words give comfort and consolation to all who grieve the loss of a loved one, explaining why they belong to this masterwork. They address Christians of all ages, not just discipiles at a supper long ago. The hope for a place for all who trust in Jesus as the way, the truth, and the life is what we need to hear from the midst of our tears.

Thomas and Philip reflect everyone’s unease with the unknown aspect of death, but Jesus reminds us through words and actions that he works in concert with the Father and that through him, we come to the Father.

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

Volunteers needed for Holy Rosary-St. John community gardens

Columbus Holy Rosary-St. John Church has received gardening grants from the City of Columbus, the Columbus Foundation, and the United Way neighborhood partnership grants program. The grants will allow for expanding the church’s community gardens and building a greenhouse this year.

Holy Rosary-St. John’s Spring Planting Day will be at 9 a.m. Saturday, May 20 at the church, 648 S. Ohio Ave., Columbus.

Church and community members will be planting flowers donated by Nationwide Children’s Hospital and doing general beautification around the grounds at that time.

The planting of the vegetable and herb garden and assembling of the greenhouse will take place later in May and June. Some produce from the vegetable and herb gardens will be donated to food assistance programs on-site.

The church would welcome volunteers to assist with these projects and to help care for the gardens throughout the summer.

For more information, email hrsjevents@gmail.com or call (614) 252-5926, extension 7.
Après Gorsuch, le deluge

Did you find the Gorsuch hearings in the Senate Judiciary Committee a depressing exercise in political theater? Are you tired of the members of the “world’s greatest deliberative body” playing “Gotcha!” games that would embarrass a well-trained high school debate team? Have you had it with a mainstream media that doesn’t hold senators accountable for gross ignorance and bias and a social media universe that’s constantly in hysterics?

If so, I’ve got some bad news for you. The melodrama over the nomination of Neil Gorsuch to the U.S. Supreme Court was just the warm-up. Things will be immeasurably worse the next time. Why? Because Gorsuch was a trade-across that maintained the court’s philosophical balance after the death of Justice Antonin Scalia. Assuming the next justice to retire or die is Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg (who’s 84), Justice Anthony Kennedy (who will be 81 in July), or Justice Stephen Breyer (who will be 79 in August), the nominee to follow will be replacing a justice fully committed to the abortion license defined by Roe v. Wade in 1973 and reaffirmed by Casey v. Planned Parenthood in 1992.

Which means, in a word, Armageddon – a battle of apocalyptic passions, unhinged from reason.

Disturbing as that forecast may be, Armageddon seems virtually inevitable after the Gorsuch hearings and the Senate floor debate on his nomination. Beneath the “Gotcha!” games played by the Senate minority, an implacable determination to preserve the abortion license, at all costs and in its present form, was obvious to those with eyes to see and ears to hear. And perhaps the most chilling formulation of that grim resolve came from Sen. Dianne Feinstein of California.

The Senate today is not replete with genius. It’s somewhat disconcerting to contrast today’s solons with a Senate that included, in 1850, Daniel Webster, Henry Clay, John C. Calhoun, Thomas Hart Benton, Sam Houston, Jefferson Davis, William H. Seward, Lewis Cass, Salmon P. Chase, and Stephen A. Douglas – men who, regardless of their positions on issues, argued with keen intelligence anchored by deep learning. There are few such senators today; but Sen. Feinstein enjoys a reputation for seriousness and thoughtfulness that is, in my experience, deserved.

Until the subject turns to abortion. Then we get the following: “Judge Gorsuch has not had occasion to rule directly on a case involving Roe. However, his writings do raise questions. Specifically, he wrote that he believes there are no exceptions to the principle that ‘the intentional taking of a human life by private persons is always wrong.’” And that principle, Sen. Feinstein concluded, raised the specter of a situation where a woman’s “decisions about her health care will be determined by politicians and the government.”

It would be interesting to know if there are situations other than the termination of an unwanted pregnancy in which Sen. Feinstein would recognize a right to the “intentional taking of a human life by private persons.” It would be even more interesting to know if, in formulating her fear as she did, Sen. Feinstein was conceding that the unborn child is a “human life” – a life that for a variety of reasons does not deserve the protection of the laws? Which would then get the discussion down to what seems to be the bottom line: the senator’s claim that Roe v. Wade gave a “woman … control over her own body.”

And there we arrive at the Armageddon-like character of what’s coming after Neil Gorsuch.

The day after the presidential inauguration, Washington saw a display of rage, vulgarity, and violence by more than half a million demonstrators, the overwhelming majority of whom, I’m willing to bet, consider the empowerment of women inextricably linked to the abortion license defined by Roe. The false (and indeed bizarre) linkage between the abortion license and the dignity of women has served the interests and convenience of irresponsible, predatory men. It has led to a tragedy of breathtaking proportions – the deaths of 58 million innocents. It has warped our politics for two generations. Yet that linkage is what leads an otherwise intelligent senator like Dianne Feinstein to take issue with “the principle that ‘the intentional taking of a human life by private persons is always wrong.’”

Reason is another victim of Roe v. Wade. The Gorsuch hearings underscored that, which does not bode well for the future.

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

Learn more about lay associate groups

Do you desire a stronger sense of community and prayer? Do you find yourself asking how you can develop more of a consistent quiet time with God? Can you have more of a monastic way of life and keep your day job? What is the difference between a lay Franciscan, Benedictine, Dominican, Cistercian, and Carmelite?

How does God desire you and your family to order your lives?

For answers to all those questions, come to the Spirit Center in the basement of Lancaster St. Mary School, 309 E. Chestnut St., from 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, June 21 and learn about the opportunities to join groups of lay associates and oblates in the Columbus and Lancaster areas. Hear about the unique journeys of people who are part of these lay orders and discover if God may be drawing you to him through a deeper connection with one of these groups.

Light refreshments will be provided. For more information, contact Lisa at lmreshad@gmail.com.
Sister Mary Elizabeth Myers, OP

Funeral Mass for Sister Mary Elizabeth Myers, OP, 81, who died Saturday, May 6, was held Wednesday, May 10 at the Motherhouse of the Dominican Sisters of Peace. Burial will be at a later date in Jennings, Louisiana.

She was born in 1935 in Jennings to the late Luke and Mamie (Kinney) Myers and entered the congregation of the Eucharistic Missionaries of St. Dominic (now the Dominican Sisters of Peace) of New Orleans in 1954. She was a licensed practical nurse and had training in the culinary arts. All her years of ministry were served in Louisiana. In her later years, she was a volunteer at the Motherhouse of the Congregation of St. Rose of Lima (now also part of the Dominican Sisters of Peace) in Oxford, Michigan.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brother, James; and sister, Marie Le Blanc. Survivors include brothers, Luke, Andrew, and Charles; and sisters, Margaret Mallet, Marcelite Sonnier, and Martha Louivere.

CENTER, continued from Page 3

Catholic Social Services are a part of this dream, and we welcome all to our center.”

Reyes said that in 2015, the center served 625 families, 98 percent of whom are Latino, with 40 percent having an annual income of $5,000 or less. The families received 87,000 meals and nearly 500 other services. The surrounding neighborhood has an overall poverty rate of 43 percent and a child poverty rate of 49 percent.

“The neighborhood has four times more children younger than five years old than it has people 55 and older,” Reyes said. “This is why the center is so vital. Its efforts to feed those children and educate their families are helping the Hispanic community mature and become a flourishing, contributing part of the community as a whole.”

The center’s pantry is a “choice” pantry, set up much like a supermarket, with clients able to select food of their choosing, rather than being handed a box of already selected food. The amount of food each family receives is determined by a point system based on family size.

Appointments to visit the pantry are scheduled by HandsOn Central Ohio, and are spread throughout the month so that the center, though always busy, is never overwhelmed at any time. Clients are required to provide a bill as proof of residence, along with valid picture identification. Most of the food for the center is provided by the Mid-Ohio Foodbank and is tailored to the Hispanic diet.

The center is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Current pantry hours are 9:30 to 11 a.m. and noon to 2 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday. Reyes said another day for the pantry is likely to be added because of the expansion. For more information, call the center at (614) 340-7061, email olgc@colscss.org, or go to www.colscss.org/our-lady-of-guadalupe-center.
May 14, 2017

Happenings

CLASSIFIED

Annual Food Truck Festival
Friday, May 26, 5:30-8:30 p.m.
ALL SAINTS ACADEMY SCHOOL
2855 E. LINCOLN AVE.
A variety of popular Food Trucks along with music, entertainment, face-painting, beer and other fun activities. Popcorn and tasty dessert treats available. Great family fun for everyone!

May

11, Thursday
Father McKiernan’s 60th Anniversary Mass
5:30 p.m., St. Thomas More Newman Center, 64 W. Lane Ave., Columbus. Father Vincent McKiernan, CSP, celebrates Mass honoring his 60th anniversary of ordination, followed by reception. 614-291-4674

Cenacle at Holy Name
6 p.m., Holy Name Church, 154 E. Patterson Ave., Columbus. Eucharistic Holy Hour following Holy Hour of Reparation prayer format, concluding with Benediction and social period. 614-372-5249

Theology on Tap Meeting
7 p.m., El Vaquero restaurant, 3240 Olentangy River Road, Columbus. Theology on Tap discussion and social group for young Catholics, with Father Nicholas Droll, parochial vicar of Columbus St. Mary, Corpus Christi, and St. Ladislas churches speaking on American saints. RSVP to

chstheologyguyentaj@gmail.com or Columbus Theology on Tap Facebook page.

Catechism Uncorked in Delaware
7 p.m., El Vaquero restaurant, 259 S. Sandusky St., Delaware. Catechism Uncorked social for 36- to 64-year-olds, sponsored by Delaware St. Mary Church adult faith formation program, featuring social time, question-answer session with speaker, and food for purchase. Speaker: Father Anthony Davis, parochial vicar, Columbus St. Andrew Church, on St. Teresa of Kolkata. 740-315-3325

12, Friday
Shepherd’s Corner Ecology Center Open House
10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Shepherd’s Corner Ecology Center, 987 N. Waggoner Road, Blacklick. Plant sale, with items available including heirloom tomatoes, sweet and hot peppers, and other garden favorites, plus maple syrup, bee smooth hand cream, towels, pot holders, and other homemade products. 614-866-4302

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.

Spiritual Warfare Presentation at Sts. Peter and Paul
9 a.m. to noon, Sts. Peter and Paul Retreat Center, 2734 Seminary Road S.E., Newark. Presentation by author and broadcaster Elizabeth Ciccolini on “Spiritual Warfare in the Age of Mary” on 100th anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima’s first apparition, preceded by adoration and prayer, Liturgy of the Hours, and initial commitment. 740-928-4246

Mass Honoring Our Lady of Fatima at Cathedral
10 a.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Mass honoring 100th anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima’s first apparition, celebrated by Father Michael Lumpe, with Msgr. Frank Lane as homilist. Rosary at 9:30.

Commencement at Ohio Dominican
11 a.m., Alumni Hall, Ohio Dominican University, 1215 Sunbury Road, Columbus. University’s 100th commencement ceremony, preceded by baccalaureate at 9 in the King Chapel. Speaker: attorney Thomas R. Winters, ODU graduate and university trustee. 614-251-4453

Procession Honoring Our Lady of Fatima
7:30 p.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Procession with Our Lady of Fatima statue through Columbus streets to St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., with rosary being prayed along the way asking for her prayers for the diocese and city. Car pooling available. 614-221-4323

14, Sunday
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.

Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic Meeting
1:30 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Meeting of St. Catherine of Siena chapter, Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic.

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.

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

15, Monday
Mass of Healing and Healing Service at Cathedral
6:30 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Mass of Healing, followed by healing service including Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and veneration of relics of the True Cross. Priests will be on hand for discussion and prayer and the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be available.

15-17, Monday–Wednesday
Holy Family Parish Mission
7 p.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Parish mission with papal missionary of mercy Father Thomas Blau, OP. Theme: “Why is Mary so Important?” 614-221-4323

16, Tuesday
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.

17, Wednesday
Abortion Recovery Network Group
9:30 to 10:30 a.m., Westerville Area Resource Ministry, 150 Heatherdown Drive, Westerville. 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

ODU Adult and Continuing Education Info Session
6:30 to 7 p.m., Ohio Dominican University, 1236 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Information session on university’s adult and continuing education programs. 614-251-7400

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 of Reparation at Columbus Sacred Heart
7 to 8 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 893 Hamlet St., Columbus. Eucharistic Holy Hour following Holy Hour of Reparation prayer format, concluding with Benediction and social period.

Mass in Spanish at Columbus Sacred Heart
6:30 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Mass of Healing, followed by healing service including Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and veneration of relics of the True Cross. Priests will be on hand for discussion and prayer and the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be available.

19, Friday
Shepherd’s Corner Ecology Center Open House
10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Shepherd’s Corner Ecology Center, 987 N. Waggoner Road, Blacklick. Center, a ministry of the Dominican Sisters of Peace, will be open, weather permitting.

20-22, Friday–Sunday
Marriage Preparation Program at St. Elizabeth
6 to 9 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Saturday, St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. “The Joy-Filled Marriage,” diocesan Marriage & Family Life Office marriage preparation program. $175 fee per couple includes meals.

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.

Singing Buckeyes Concert at Bishop Watterson
7 p.m., Bishop Watterson High School, 99 E. Cooke Road, Columbus. “Barbershop and All That Jazz” concert sponsored by Singing Buckeyes male chorus. Tickets $15 adults, $10 seniors and students. 614-459-0400

21, Sunday
Catholic Record Society Annual Meeting at St. Elizabeth
11 a.m., St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. Catholic Record Society annual meeting, beginning with Mass, followed by lunch at 12:30, talk by Msgr. Robert Noon, founding pastor, on the parish’s early days, short business meeting, and Holy Hour, rosary, and benediction at 3:30. Lunch $21. 614-268-4166

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.

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.

Polish Mass at Holy Family
2 p.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Monthly Mass in Polish.

614-221-4323
Italian visitors at DeSales

Students in fourth-year Italian classes at Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School were visited by Franco Iaderosa of the NOI Foundation and the Italian Consulate in Detroit and Sandro Corso, education director of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The NOI Foundation has supported the school's Italian classes for the past three years, providing reimbursement to students who take the Italian Advanced Placement exam. Pictured are (from left): Italian teacher Antonella Iacobone, Dom Carfagna, Anna Sabatino, Mitchell Liston, London Polk, Nora Hartsough, Grace Waldren, Hannah Wilkes, Bruno Bertolo, Hannah Verne, Ryan Peaks, Max Freeman, Cameron Cua, Franco Iaderosa, and Sandro Corso.

Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School

State History Day competition participants

Worthington St. Michael School was represented at the State History Day competition by (from left) Ryan Driscoll, Chloe Forrest, and Joey White. Their teacher is John Wallace (second from left). Forrest’s project was ranked second in the state of Ohio, qualifying her for National History Day at the University of Maryland in June.

Photo courtesy St. Michael School

Coshocton students at school choice rally

Coshocton Sacred Heart School attended a rally at the Ohio Statehouse to show state legislators and Gov. Kasich, by physical presence at the rally, how important school choice is to the school and its families. The Legislature is considering a bill to establish the Opportunity Scholarship Program, a new income-based program that allows full and partial scholarships to nonpublic schools to families earning as much as 400 percent of the poverty level. The current EdChoice Expansion Scholarship allows scholarships to families earning as much as 200 percent of the poverty level. The proposed program would provide an increased opportunity for many low- and middle-income families to send their children to the school of their choice.

Photo courtesy Sacred Heart School
The land surrounding the Dominican Sisters of Peace motherhouse in this central Kentucky community has been farmed since 1822.

In the beginning, the sisters farmed the verdant hills to feed the community and the students they taught.

Today, the farm is tended by a manager and a part-time farmhand who primarily raise beef cattle.

The heart of the farm’s mission is to promote sustainable farming practices and provide quality beef for the sisters and consumers alike, said farm manager Danny Spalding.

“We’ve done a whole lot to humanly raise cattle, in how we feed them, how they are handled, and the general welfare of the cattle,” he said. “People want to know where their food comes from.”

The farm is situated on 650 acres of picturesque countryside in gently rolling hills a short walk downhill from the motherhouse.

Hay and corn raised on the farm feed the cattle. Two lakes, wetlands, and a forest with a creek running through it are on the property.

Spalding said beef sales are “running very strong.” Last year, the farm sold about 90 steers. At about 1,250 pounds per animal, the yield was more than 100,000 pounds of beef, he said.

The biggest market is for the grain-fed beef. He said grass-fed beef is a growing market. All the beef is free of antibiotics, steroids, and hormones.

About half the sales are in the area around nearby Springfield, Kentucky. The remaining sales come from the wider region including Louisville, Lexington, Elizabethtown, Fort Knox, and Danville. Spalding said sales of grass-fed beef in particular have expanded into Tennessee.

The farm also sells pork, which is raised by Amish farmers in Casey County, Kentucky. Spalding estimated that the farm sold 50 to 60 hogs last year.

Beyond the regional sales, the farm provides beef to the order’s motherhouse, its Sansbury Care Center, and other Dominican motherhouses. The Dominican community at St. Catherine merged with six other Dominican communities in 2009 to form the Dominican Sisters of Peace, based in Columbus, Ohio.

Though the farm’s main focus is beef, it has undertaken other initiatives. Farmworkers installed four bee-hives in 2009. And in 2013, workers planted an orchard of peach, apple, and pear trees. Spalding said the fruits of that effort should be ready for use next year.

A note of pride is evident in Spalding’s voice when he discusses the farm and its sustainable practices. Spalding, who has worked the farm since 1983, said crops and grazing areas are rotated to prevent soil depletion.

“We want to make sure people know the cattle are not locked up in a barn. They are able to roam the hillside,” said Spalding, a parishioner of St. Rose Church in Springfield.

Sister Charlene Moser, OP, who serves as a liaison between the sisters and the farm, said the community embraces sustainable practices not only to provide a desirable product, but also to preserve and care for the land.

“The idea is not to extract as much as possible, but to care for it. Pope Francis talks about this in Laudato Si’—that humans should have respect for the land and to use the gifts we’ve be given to care for it,” she said, citing the pope’s 2015 encyclical on the environment.

Sister Charlene said the farm also taps the roots of the sisters’ mission.

“The congregation began as a teaching community, and we see the farm as a means of fulfilling the teaching mission,” she said.

The farm collaborates with local and state organizations to promote sustainable practices and to educate the public about proper soil and water management. It usually hosts a field day in the summer, when the public is invited to tour and learn about its operation.

Susan McCain, who chairs the St. Catharine Farm Advisory Council, said the farm and its practices align with the overall ministry of the congregation.

“We are not like other farms,” she said. “The farm’s profitability is important for viability and continuity, but its mission, vision, and commitment to the sustainability of God’s creation is its driving force.”

Able is a staff writer at The Record, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Louisville, Kentucky.
MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES
At your Catholic Cemeteries of Columbus
Monday ~ May 29, 2017

ST. JOSEPH
6440 S. High Street
(Route 23) South of I-270
11:00 A.M. MASS
IN OUR MOTHER OF SORROWS CHAPEL
Flag Ceremony at 12:00 Noon
614-491-2751

Msgr. John Cody
Judicial Vicar
Diocese/Tribunal

RESURRECTION
9571 N. High Street
(Route 23) North of I-270
1:00 P.M. MASS
IN CHAPEL MAUSOLEUM
Flag Ceremony at 12:00 Noon
614-888-1805

Fr. Denis Kigozi
Pastor
St. John XXIII. Church

MT. CALVARY
581 Mt. Calvary Avenue
at West Mound Street
11:00 A.M. MASS
ON PRIEST’S CIRCLE
614-491-2751

Msgr. David Funk
Pastor
St. Pius X. Church

HOLY CROSS
11539 National Rd. S.W.
(Route 40) East of I-270
11:00 A.M. MASS
IN CHAPEL MAUSOLEUM
Flag Ceremony at 10:30 a.m.
740-927-4442

Fr. Nicholas Droll
Parochial Vicar
Corpus Christi Church

SPECIAL MEMORIAL WEEKEND OFFICE HOURS
SATURDAY 8:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.
SUNDAY 11:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.
MONDAY 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.
Cemetery personnel will be available to answer questions and help locate family grave spaces